

ANNUAL REPORTS  
FOR THE  
TOWN OF PLAINFIELD  
MASSACHUSETTS  
2010

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The opportunity to recognize two members of the same family simultaneously doesn't often present itself. Plainfield has been fortunate that both Dennis Thatcher and Denise (Thatcher) Sessions have put forward their best efforts for several decades to serve the town in their respective positions as fire chief and librarian. Dennis and Denise were raised in Plainfield with their siblings on the family farm located on South Central Street. Both Dennis and Denise have an inherent sense of community pride passed down from their grandfather Floyd Thatcher. With both pride and pleasure the Select Board, on behalf of the citizens of Plainfield, dedicate the 2010 Annual Report to Dennis Thatcher and Denise Sessions.



## DENNIS THATCHER

After graduating from high school, Dennis went to work on the family farm, while also working winters at Berkshire Snow Basin in West Cummington. During this time he met and married his "first love" Theresa. It wasn't long before Dennis discovered his "second love"; joining the Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department. In those early years, he learned the ins and outs of firefighting from Chief "Dutch" Hathaway and Deputy Chief Frank Skaling. The late 1970's brought changes to volunteer fire service in Massachusetts, formalized training, the end of the red phone and siren used to call out firefighters, the need to use full fire turnout gear, the use of pagers and radios, the need for specialized equipment and hardware, water tankers, forest fire brush trucks, and SCBA's. Dennis also became one of Plainfield's first Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) along with Arvilla Dyer. He then began serving regular shifts with the volunteer Cummington Ambulance covering both Cummington and Plainfield. As Dennis began to accept more responsibility in the PVFD, Chief Hathaway appointed him as an officer in the early 1980's. With the unexpected death of Chief Hathaway in 1984, the Selectmen, at the recommendation of the Fire Department members, appointed Dennis as the new fire chief. Upon being sworn in, Dennis became one of the Commonwealth's youngest fire chiefs. Surrounding mutual aid towns and fire

service administrators soon discovered what the PVFD already knew, this was a position made for Dennis Thatcher. Whether it is an actual emergency call, local inspection, meeting with town administrators, discussing budgets, or personnel concerns, Dennis is up to the task. As the town grew, so did the demands and expectations for Plainfield Fire/EMS. More members joined the department, the Plainfield Volunteer Firefighter's Association became an important fund raising group for the PVFD, the need for updated equipment, better hardware and software, more effective training, new vehicles, and the new Public Safety Complex have all become realities during Dennis' tenure. For the chief of a small volunteer fire/EMS service in the Hilltowns, these could easily have been overwhelming challenges, but that is fortunately not the case. Dennis continues to lead a successful organization that has been built in his image and his desire to give Plainfield the best possible protection. Dennis and Theresa built their home and sugar house and raised their lovely daughter Jennifer in Plainfield.

## DENISE SESSIONS

Denise was selected to serve as librarian for the Shaw Memorial Library by the trustees in 1987. Right from the start Denise has proved to be one of the most dedicated librarians in the Massachusetts library system. Her willingness and ability to obtain almost any resource for library patrons is unprecedented. Patrons can count on being able to read the newest fiction, borrow the newest movies, or surf the web when visiting the library. Denise has provided children with books and special programs that have instilled a love of the library that not only follows them, but is certain to be passed on to future generations. Not only does Denise have a fantastic memory and knowledge of patrons' preferences, she also offers suggestions and encourages them to try something new. In addition to National Library Week celebrations and Summer Reading Programs, Denise arranges and oversees the annual book sale. Since the Doris Alden Wing was added in 2002, Denise and the library trustees have been instrumental in showcasing the works of local artists as well as hosting book clubs, knitting groups, and various presentations by local authors. Denise and her husband Jay reside in Plainfield where they raised their three lovely daughters, Alyssa, Kimberly, and Nicole, in Plainfield.



## ELECTED OFFICIALS

### Term Expires

#### Board of Assessors -3 Years

Claude E. Dupont III, Chairman	2012
Wayne E. Phillips, Jr.	2011
Vacant	2013

#### Board of Health – 3 Years

David A. Danielson, Chairman	2011
David Crowell	2012
Ruby Goodnoff	2013

#### Board of Selectmen – 3 Years

Phillip S. Lococo, Chairman	2013
Judith Feeley	2011
Dennis Mimitz	2012

#### Constables – 3 Years

1 <sup>st</sup> – Edward E. Morann	2013
2nd – Merton Taylor, Sr.	2013

#### Councilor, Hampshire Council of Gov – 3 Years

David A. Danielson	2011
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#### Library Trustees – 3 Years

Sandra Morann, Chairman	2012
Ann Kohn	2013
Linda O'Dea	2011

#### Moderator – 1 Year

Penn Moulton	2011
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#### School Committee – 3 Years

Heather Davis	2011
Robert Aeschback	2011

#### Tax Collector – 3 Years

Mary Lynn Sabourin	2013
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#### Town Clerk – 3 Years

Theresa A. Thatcher	2013
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#### Treasurer – 3 Years

Linda Alvord	2013
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#### Tree Warden – 1 Year

Claude E. Dupont III	
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#### Whiting Street Fund Disbursement Comm – 3 Years

David W. Alvord, Chairman	2011
Ellen Baer	2012
Robert Persing	2013

## APPOINTED OFFICIALS

### Term Expires

#### Accountant – 3 Years

Paula J. King	2013
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#### Ad Hoc Public Safety Complex Committee - 1 Year

Claude E. Dupont III	2011
Edward E. Morann	2011
Dennis A. Thatcher	2011

#### Ad Hoc Road Status Committee – 1 Year

William Sheppard	2011
Claude E. Dupont III	2011
Vacant	2011

#### Agricultural Commission – 3 Years

Anna Manning-Hanchett, Chairman	2013
William Burt – Appointed 2/28/11	2013
Winton Pitcoff	2013
Edward Stockman	2013
Larry LaRock (Resigned)	

#### Agricultural Commission – Alternate – 1 Year

David Crowell	2011
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#### AMCO Officer

Philip Lococo	2011
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#### Americans with Disabilities Act Committee - 1 Year

William Adams	2011
David Danielson	2011

#### Animal Aid Committee – 1 Year

Ronald A. Scott, Chairman	2011
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#### Animal Control Officer – 1 Year

Kyle Meservey	2011
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#### Board of Registrars – 3 Years

John F. Westwood, Chairman	2011
Linda J. Melle	2012
Thelma Pilgrim	2013
Theresa A. Thatcher	2013

#### Building Committee – 3 Years

James Feeley, Chairman	2011
Claude E Dupont III	2012
Dennis Mimitz	2013
Andrew Sargenski	2013
Clara Pleun Bouricius, Non-voting member	2013

#### Building Inspector – 3 Years

Andrew Stevens	2012
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#### Burial Agent – 1 Year

Theresa A. Thatcher	2011
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#### Carl Nilman Scholarship Committee Rep – 1 Year

James Pilgrim	2011
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#### Cemetery Committee – 3 Years

Theresa A. Thatcher, Clerk	2012
Betsy Howes	2013
Merton D. Taylor, Sr.	2011

#### Conservation Commission – 3 Years

Judith B. Williams, Chairman	2012
Emily Boss	2012
Susan LaRock	2013
Alice Schertle	2013
Vacant	2011
Emily Stockman (Resigned)	

#### Cori Officer – 1 Year

Edward E. Morann	2011
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#### Council on Aging – 3 Years

Jay McMahon, Chairman	2013
Philip Alessio	2012
Ruby Goodnoff	2013
Ann Kohn	2012
Vacant	2011

#### Council on Aging –Alternate - 1 Year

James Feeley	2011
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#### Cultural Council – 3 Years

David Kramer, Chairman	09/30/2013
Erik Burcroff	09/30/2012
Dario Coletta	09/30/2013
Rebecca Coletta	09/30/2013
Linda Christie	09/30/2013
Gail Fusco	09/30/2013
Elaine Holder	09/30/2012
Perri Kelly	09/30/2012
June G. Persing	09/30/2011

#### Emergency Management – 1 Year

Merton D. Taylor, Jr., Chairman	2011
Dennis Thatcher, Co-Chairman	2011
Laurence D. Wood, Jr., Co-Chairman	2011

#### Field Driver – 1 Year

David Crowell	2011
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#### Finance Committee – 3 Years

David E. Filkins, Chairman	2011
Robert L. Persing, Acting Chairman	2013
Bettie Briggs	2013
David Briggs	2013
Paul Walters	2012
Roberta Wooldridge	2012

**Fire Department – 1 Year**

Dennis A. Thatcher, Chief	2011
David W. Alvord, Deputy Chief	2011
Edward E. Morann, Captain	2011
Merton D. Taylor, Jr., Captain	2011
Scott Dupont, Lieutenant	2011
Matthew Hardwick, Lieutenant	2011
Stacey Magdycz, Lieutenant	2011

**Flags & Flowers Committee – 1 Year**

Ruth D. Fuhrmann, Chairman	2011
Susan M. Lococo	2011
Sandra J. Morann	2011
Bonnie F. Phillips	2011
Vacant	2011

**Franklin Regional Transit Authority-1 Year**

Judith Feeley	2011
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**Grant Writing Committee – 3 Years**

Kimberly Longley	2011
Vacant	2012
Vacant	2013

**Hazardous Materials Officer – 1 Year**

Dennis A. Thatcher	2011
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**Highland Valley Elder Services – 1 Year**

Ann Kohn	2011
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**Highway Department Advisory Committee – 2 Years**

Charles King	06/30/2012
Claude E Dupont III	06/30/2012
Peter LaPointe	06/30/2012
Edward E. Morann	06/30/2012
Robert Mellstrom	06/30/2012

**Highway Dept Advisory Committee, Alt – 2 years**

Jamie Wooldridge	06/30/2012
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**Hilltown Community Development Corp Rep – 1 Year**

Robert M. Baker	2011
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**Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative – 1 Year**

David A. Danielson	2011
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**Historical Commission – 3 Years**

Dario Coletta, Chairman	2011
Judy A. Williams	2011
Laurie Austin	2012
Wendy L. Mimitz	2013
Vacant	2012

**Inspector of Animals – 1 Year**

Roberta Wooldridge	04/30/2011
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**Inspector of Gas Fittings – 1 Year**

Donald Lawton	2011
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**Master Street Address Guide Committee - 1 Year**

Edward E. Morann, Chairman	2011
Robert L. Persing	2011
Dennis A. Thatcher	2011
Theresa A. Thatcher	2011
Laurence D. Wood, Jr.	2011

**MBI Community Rep (Point of Contact) - 1 Year**

Brian Hawthorne	2011
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**Mohawk Municipal Advisory Committee - 1 Year**

Robert Persing	2011
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**Moth Superintendent - 1 Year**

Judy B. Williams	2011
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**Plainfield's Delegation – Wired West – 1 Year**

Brian Hawthorne	2011
Vacant – Alternate	2011
Kimberly Longey (Resigned)	

**Plainfield's Energy Committee – 1 Year**

Penn Moulton	2011
Paul Walters	2011
Sarah Stull	2011
Ruby Goodnoff	2011

**Plainfield's Energy Committee – 1 Year (Continued)**

David Danielson	2011
Edward Stockman	2011
Judith Feeley	2011

**Planning Board - 3 Years**

Robert L. Persing, Chairman	2013
Gerald Connell	2012
Claude E. Dupont III	2012
Penn Moulton	2012
Winton Pitcoff	2012

**Police Department – 1 Year**

Laurence D. Wood, Jr., Chief	2011
Stacy Magdycz, Assistant Chief	2011
Sandra Morann, Special Officer	2011
Merton D. Taylor, Sr., Special Officer	2011
Edward E. Morann, Special Officer	2011

**Recreation Committee – 3 Years**

Sandra Morann, Chairman	2012
Heather Davis	2012
Justina Harrison	2012
Roxanne Shearer	2011
Kenneth Magdycz	2013

**Recreation Committee Alternates – 1 Year**

Kara Kitchen	2011
Robert Jensen	2011
Gino Orlandi	2011

**Right to Know Officer – 1 Year**

Gregor B. Prentice	2011
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**Safety Coordinator – 1 Year**

Gregor B. Prentice	2011
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**School Council Community Representative -1 Year**

Vacant	2011
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**Surveyors of Wood & Lumber – 1 Year**

Claude E. Dupont III	2011
Wayne E. Phillips, Jr.,	2011

**Tax Collector Assistant – 1 Year**

Vacant	2011
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**Town Clerk Assistant - 1 Year**

Betsy Howes	2011
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**Treasurer Assistant – 1 Year**

Vacant	2011
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**Town Perambulator – 1 Year**

Erik Burcroff	2011
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**Town Administrative Assistant/Secretary - 1 Year**

Paula King	2011
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**Uniform Procurement Officer – 1 Year**

Dennis Mimitz	2011
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**Veteran's Agent – 1 Year**

Leo J. Parent, Jr.	2011
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**Veterans' Graves Officer – 1 Year**

Dudley Williams	2011
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**Veteran's Service, Western Franklin Rep- 1 Year**

Phillip S. Lococo	2011
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**Zoning Board of Appeals – 3 Years**

Robert E. Mellstrom, Chairman	2011
Joan Wattman	2011
Dudley Williams	2013
Vacant	2012

**Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate - 1 Year**

Edward Kohn	2011
Sandra J. Morann	2011

## HIRED POSITIONS

### Assessor's Assistant – 1 Year

Catherine Hall 2011

### Building Local Inspector – 1 Year

Andrew Stevens 2011

### Highway Superintendent – 1 Year

Claude E. Dupont III 2011

### Library Director - 1 Year

Denise M. Sessions 2011

### Wiring Inspector – 1 Year

William Graham 2011

### Plumbing Inspector – 1 Year

Donald Lawton 2011

### Tax Collector Deputy – 1 Year

Point Software 2011

### Town Counsel – 1 Year

Attorney Ronald Berenson 2011

Kopelman & Paige 2011

### Town Custodian – 1 Year

Susan M. Lococo 2011

First Constable	Merton Taylor Sr.	55
	Blank	2
Second Constable	Edward Morann	53
	Howard Hudson	1
	Blank	3
Library Trustee	Ann Kohn	54
	Blank	3
Library Trustee	Linda O'Dea	49
	Blank	8
Moderator	Penn Moulton	54
	Blank	3
Tax Collector	Mary Lynn Sabourin	49
	Ellen Dupont	3
	Blank	5
Town Clerk	Theresa Thatcher	56
	Blank	1
Treasurer	Linda Alvord	55
	Blank	2
Tree Warden	Claude F Dupont III	26
	Dario Coletta	1
	William Adams	1
	Edward Stockman	2
	Edward Morann	1
	Wayne Phillips	1
	Blank	25

Whiting Street Fund Disbursement Committee	Robert Persing	55
	Blank	2

**Article 2:** Motion made and supported to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide such amounts of money as are reasonable and necessary to defray the expenses of the town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, or take any other action relative thereto. See Appropriations for actual amounts approved **Unanimous**

**Article 3:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$53.82 from the Dog Fund to the Shaw Memorial Library, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee **Unanimous**

**Article 4:** Motion made and supported to return \$1,005.00 from book sales and fines to the Shaw Memorial Library, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant. Recommended by the Finance Committee **Unanimous**

**Article 5:** Motion made and supported to authorize the Assessors to apply \$64,000.00 from Free Cash to reduce the Fiscal 2011 tax rate, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant. Recommended by the Finance Committee **Unanimous**

**Article 6:** Motion made and supported shall the Town of Plainfield allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to establish stabilization funds in accordance with M.G.L. c. 71, Sec. 16G1/2 for capital projects with regard to the Mohawk Trail Regional School District High School and Middle School. Inserted by Michael A. Buoniconti, MTRSD Superintendent Approved 16 Opposed 22

**Article 7:** Motion made and supported to raise and appropriate the sum of \$172,029.00 and take the amount of \$24,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding Vocational Tuition and Transportation for Fiscal 2011, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Finance Committee Recommended by the Finance Committee.

**Requires a 2/3 vote Approved 38 Opposed 0**

**Article 8:** Motion made and supported to continue membership in the Hampshire Council of Governments for Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2014 with a 25% reduction in FY2007 four-year annual dues assessment. Submitted by the Hampshire Council of Governments Recommended by the Finance Committee

**Unanimous**

**Article 9:** The Following article was redrawn by Robert Persing, Chairman of Planning Board, prior to being read:

## 2010 ANNUAL ELECTION CAUCUS

March 17, 2010 7:30 PM Plainfield Town Hall

The following Terms expire June 31, 2013:

Office	Term	Incumbent
Board of Assessors	3 Years	Vacant
Board of Health	3 Years	Ruby Goodnoff
Board of Selectman	3 Years	Phillip S. Lococo
Constables		
1st Constable	3 Years	Merton D Taylor Sr.
2nd Constable	3 Years	Edward E. Morann
Library Trustees	3 Years	Ann Kohn
	1 Year (Bal of term)	Linda O'Dea
Moderator	1 Year	Penn Moulton
Tax Collector	3 Years	Mary Lynn Sabourin
Town Clerk	3 Years	Theresa Thatcher
Treasurer	3 Years	Linda Alvord
Tree Warden	1 Year	Claude DuPont III
Whiting Street Fund		
Disbursement Committee	3 Years	James Pilgrim
		Edward Morann
		Caucus Chairman

Posted March 2010 Quorum for any meeting is: 15 Registered Voters

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

**May 1, 2010**

Pursuant to the Warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Saturday May 1, 2010. The quorum being 25 and 38 registered voters being present, the meeting was opened at 1:02 PM by Moderator Penn Moulton.

The Warrant was read and the following action was taken:

**Article 1:** Motion made and supported to validate official Ballot for all Town Officers, Committees, Trustees, etc., and to fix compensation for the same. 57 Registered voters voted on May 1, 2010. The following are the results of the Ballots:

Board of Assessors:	Blank	57
Board of Health:	Ruby Goodnoff	55
Blank		2
Board of Selectmen:	Phillip S. Lococo	51
	Robert Aeschback	1
	Non-Resident	1
	Blank	4



To see if the Town will vote to amend The Zoning By-Law of the Town of Plainfield as follows:

#### SECTION IV 4.1.2

Delete title "Accessory Uses and Structure" and insert "Other Uses and Structures"

Delete the sentence "Accessory Uses or Structures must be incidental and subordinate to permitted residential uses." and insert "Other Uses and Structures shall be allowed if conforming to the Bylaws and applicable regulations."

#### SECTION II 2.1.50

Insert the word "driveways" between the words "court" and "or".

#### SECTION II

Insert "2.1.52(1) Use. The activity which is conducted on a lot."

Delete 2.1.3 in its entirety.

#### SECTION VI 6.2.1

In the second line of the paragraph, between the words "home" and "on", insert "(defined as a manufactured home otherwise compliant with applicable standards but not placed on a permanent foundation)".

#### EXHIBIT B

Add two additional uses to the Table of Intensity Regulations

MINIMUM YARD REQUIREMENTS IN FEET							
USE	AREA IN ACRES	LOT FRONT IN FT.	FRONT SIDE	REAR	MAX Ht. IN FT.	NOTES	
"Driveways	N/A	50	N/A	15	15	N/A	Minimum width To be 20 feet
Fences	N/A	50	6	2	2	8"	

Inserted by the Planning Board

**No Vote**

**Article 10:** Motion made and supported to reduce the amount authorized to borrow for the Highway Truck w/ Wing Plow at the Annual Town Meeting on May 2, 2009 by the amount of \$39,700.00, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee Unanimous  
**Article 11:** Motion made and supported to retain ownership of the Jackson Property located on Main Street, Assessors' Map 15C, Parcels 24 and 25, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board

**Unanimous**

**Article 12:** Motion made and supported to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the purpose of conducting a wetlands study on the Jackson Property located on Main Street, Assessors' Map 15C, Parcels 24 and 25, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by Robert Persing

**Unanimous**

**Article 13:** Motion made and supported to accept as available funds any and all monies from the Executive Office of Transportation for Fiscal 2011.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

**Unanimous**

**Article 14:** Motion made and supported to choose or create, as appropriate, any other Town Committees, Boards, Commissions, Trustees, Offices, etc., and to fix compensation for the same, or take any other action relative thereto. Unanimous

**Article 15:** Motion made and supported to authorize the Board of Selectmen to retain legal counsel for the town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

**Unanimous**

**Article 16:** Motion made and supported to enter into immediate discussions with other Western Massachusetts municipalities with the intent of entering an inter-municipal agreement, by and through the Select Board\*, pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 4A of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the purpose of establishing a universal, open access, financially self-sustaining communication system for the provision of broadband service, including high-speed internet access, telephone and cable television to the residents, businesses and

**Article 16** (continued):

Institutions of these municipalities; or an act relative thereto.

\*Board of Selectmen in those towns in which the Board is so referred to.

Inserted by Kimberly Longey, Ad Hoc High Speed Internet Advisory Committee, Supported by the Select Board

**Unanimous**

**Article 17:** Motion made and supported to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the Town Hall, Shaw Memorial Library, Hallock Memorial School Building, Hathaway Hall, Firehouse, Town Garage, Police Station, Public Safety Building, and surrounding areas, in the charge of the Buildings Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Buildings Committee

**Unanimous**

**Article 18:** Motion made and supported to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the cemeteries in the charge of the Cemetery Committee, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Cemetery Committee

**Unanimous**

**Article 19:** Motion made and supported to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the highways, public ways, including the alteration and widening thereof, railings and bridges in the charge of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

**Unanimous**

**Article 20:** Motion made and supported to accept the reports of the Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Trustees, etc. as printed in the Town Report.

**Unanimous**

**Article 21:** Motion made and supported to transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. There being no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned at 2:46 P.M. by unanimous vote.

A true record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Theresa A. Thatcher, Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Theresa A. Thatcher, Town Clerk

## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

June 23, 2009

Pursuant to the Warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Tuesday, June 23, 2009. The quorum being 15 and 31 registered voters being present, the meeting was opened at 7:30 PM by Theresa Thatcher, Town Clerk. Town Clerk opened nominations for a Moderator for the meeting.

Nomination made and seconded for Robert Corash. Unanimous vote for election for meeting only. Robert Corash sworn in as Moderator.

The Warrant was read and the following action was taken:

**Article 1:** Motion made and supported to give a one year notification of the Town's intent to withdraw from the contract with Highland Ambulance EMS, Inc., or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by Select Board

**Approved 19 Opposed 6**

**Article 2:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amounts of \$14,500.00 from the Insurance Account, \$1,000.00 from the Short Term Interest Account, and \$1,000.00 from the Long Term Interest Account to the Vocational Tuition Account, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

**Unanimous**

**Article 3:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$5,500.00 from the Long Term Interest Account to the Chapter 32B Health Insurance Account, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

**Unanimous**

**Article 4:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$2,500.00 from the Assistant Treasurer, Collector, Town Clerk Salary Account and \$800.00 from Free Cash to the Building Inspector Account, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee  
**Article 5:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$2,638.00 from the Long Term Interest Account to the Winter Roads Account, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

**Unanimous**

**Article 6:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$8,700.00 from the Free Cash to the Buildings Operations Accounts, or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee Unanimous

**Article 7:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$20,873.00 to the Stabilization Account, or take any action relative thereto. Requires a 2/3 Vote. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee Approved 31 Opposed 0

**Article 8:** Motion made and supported to take the amount of \$187.07 from the Compactor/Board of Health to pay a Fiscal 2008 invoice from Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative, or take any action relative thereto.

Requires a 9/10 vote **Approved 29 Opposed 0**  
There being no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned at 7:40 PM by unanimous vote.

A true record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Theresa A. Thatcher, Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Theresa A. Thatcher, Town Clerk

## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

**June 29, 2010**

Pursuant to the Warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Tuesday, June 29, 2010. The quorum being 15 and 17 registered voters being present, the meeting was opened at 7:40 PM by Theresa Thatcher, Town Clerk. Town Clerk opened nominations for a Moderator for the meeting.

Nomination made and seconded for William Adams. Unanimous vote for election for meeting only. William Adams sworn in as Moderator.

The Warrant was read and the following action was taken:

**Article 1:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$15,554.00 from the Insurance Account and \$12,995.00 from Free Cash to the Vocational Account or take any action relative thereto. Inserted by Select Board **Unanimous**

**Article 2:** Motion made and supported to transfer the amount of \$4,142.94 from Overlay Surplus, \$1,475.00 from the Tree Warden Account and \$4,8704.45 from Highway Salaries to the Winter Roads Account, or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee **Unanimous**

**Article 3:** Motion made and supported transfer the amount of \$5,500.00 from the Long Term Interest Account to the Chapter 32B Health Insurance Account or take any other action relative thereto. Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee **Unanimous**

There being no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned at 7:48 PM by unanimous vote.

A true record to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST: Theresa A. Thatcher, Town Clerk

A True Copy:

ATTEST: Theresa A. Thatcher, Town Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,

**Theresa Thatcher**

Plainfield Town Clerk

## TOWN CLERK

### DEATHS, BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES

The following are the totals only for the year.

(Personal information is no longer allowed to be published)

Births: 3

Marriages: 0

Deaths: 1

### MISCELLANEOUS INCOME-2009

Quantity	Town Fees	Total Collected
1 Business Certificates	\$20.00	\$20.00
3 Zoning-By-Laws-Resident Copies	10.00	30.00
3 Town-By-Laws-Copies	5.00	15.00
0 Gas Tank Permit	5.00	0.00
2 Bicentennial Cookbook	3.00	6.00
4 Marriage Licenses copies	10.00	40.00
22 Death Certificate copies	5.00	110.00

**Totals**

**Total Paid to Treasurer \$301.00**

**\$301.00**

### DOG LICENSES ISSUED

Qty	Descrip	Cost Pd	Twn Treas	Pd Cnty Treas	Total
9	Males	\$6.00	\$6.75	\$47.25	\$54.00
50	Males -Neutered	3.00	35.25	112.50	150.00
7	Females	6.00	\$3.00	36.75	42.00
44	Females -Spayed	3.00	30.75	99.00	132.00
0	Kennels -10 or less	25.00	\$1.50	0.00	0.00
0	Replace Tag	0.00	\$0.10	0.00	\$0.00
7	Late Fee	5.00	35.00	0.00	35.00
0	Late Fee	10.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00
1	Late Fee	25.00	25.00	0.00	25.00

**Totals**

**\$142.25**

**\$295.50**

**\$438.00**

**Paid to Hampshire Council of Government \$295.50**

**Paid to Town Treasurer \$142.25**

**Total Collected**

**\$438.00**

### FISH & WILDLIFE LICENSES ISSUED

Qty	Descrip	Cost per lic	Pd Twn	Pd Cnty Tres	Total
2	Res Fish	\$28.50	\$3.00	\$54.00	\$57.00
3	Res Fish (Handicapped & Age 70 or over)	Free	0.00	81.00	0.00
1	Res Fish-Minor	12.50	1.50	81.00	51.75
1	Non-res Fish (3day)	24.50	1.50	27.00	24.50
1	Res Hunt	28.50	1.50	27.00	28.50
2	Res Hunt-Minor	12.50	3.00	54.00	25.00
4	Res Sport	46.00	6.00	108.00	184.00
3	Res Sport (Age 65-69)	26.00	4.50	81.00	78.00
0	Res Sport (Age 70 or over)	Free	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Archery Stamp	5.10	0.40	20.00	20.40
3	Primitive Firearms Stamp	5.10	0.30	15.00	15.30

**Totals**

**\$39.70**

**\$688.00**

**\$542.20**

**Paid to Town Treasurer \$ 39.70**

**Paid to Div of Fisheries & Wildlife-Licenses**

**\$688.00**

**Total**

**Collected**

**\$39.70**

### COMPACTOR PUNCH CARDS ISSUED

Quantity	Description	Town Fees	Total
185	Compactor Punch Card	\$37.50	\$6,937.50
1	Blue Recycle Bin	3.00	3.00

**Totals**

**\$6,940.50**

**Paid to Town Treasurer**

**\$6,940.50**

## SELECT BOARD

The Board approved level funding for Salaries, Town Council and Training Seminars. The Board also requested a position of Assistant Town Clerk at a salary of \$500.00. This year's contract with Highland Ambulance was approved and signed with a request to see the contract reflect Capital versus Expense Assessments.



A meeting with the Highway Department employees was held to discuss the new and revised time sheets. The Board also began holding extra meetings to review and update the employee handbook from 1995. Bill Adams agreed to work with the Board to accomplish this.

Kimberly Longey, a member of the ad hoc High Speed Internet Committee updated the Board on new developments. A new regional/local community-based organization called "WiredWest" has been formed and is seeking local community membership. Brian Hawthorne was later appointed as Plainfield's representative to WiredWest. He will keep us informed of the group's progress to negotiate and provide broadband service to western Massachusetts' towns.

Andrew Stevens, our local Building Inspector, has met with the Board throughout the year. One issue regarding property with buildings and no permits ended when the property was sold and the buildings were removed prior to the sale. The Board appointed Mr. Stevens as the officer to enforce the new state regulations for outdoor wood boilers. This year also included meetings with Andy and the State Inspector Louise Vera concerning Nine Mountain.

On May 1, 2010 Plainfield conducted its annual town meeting. The Board wishes to thank all committee chairmen and boards for submitting annual budgets and yearly reports. All our volunteer and employees keep Plainfield running smoothly.

WMECO met with the Board to present an overview of the scope of work for an 18K2 circuit improvement project. The project includes tree trimming and replacing poles and wires from the Plainfield sub-station to Cummington. Several pole hearings were held for the placement of new poles.

In May Board of Health members informed the Board about the declining state of the Compactor, recommending future planning for its replacement. The Board wishes to thank Al Smith, Ray Adams and Claude DuPont for the successful repair of the existing compactor.

In June a special Town meeting was held to transfer money to the Vocational Tuition and winter roads accounts and also to provide funding for new fuel tanks needed at the Highway Garage. The old underground tanks will no longer pass inspection. New above ground fuel tanks were installed in September after accepting a bid from Miller Petroleum Systems, Inc.

After review and discussion the Board approved a policy for use of the Town Hall, agreeing that use of the building for profit isn't appropriate. The policy does allow for donations to be accepted. Town residents may use the space for personal events with the approval of the Administrative Secretary Paula King.

In August Kevin Maloney P.E. from Stantec met with the Board concerning the Rt. 116 design. Stantec submitted 25 % of the engineering design to the state in February as required. A question regarding approval of the design prompted a field meeting with state and local officials. This meeting resulted in a better understanding of the project so that the state could approve the 25% design and move to a public hearing, scheduled for November.

Steve Hersberg, representing HCDC addressed the Board about the 2011 Community Development Block Grant Strategy. After a public hearing for review

and agreement, a final draft was written and accepted by the Board in November.

PVPC has received funding from the Department of Energy Resources to assist communities with the process of deciding if they want to pass by-laws to become grant eligible "Green Communities". The Board approved the formation of an Energy Community, not to exceed seven members to assist the Board in this process. The Energy Committee will also review information of wind power, especially wind power legislation pending in Boston.

The Annual Tax Classification Hearing was held in early December. The Board approved a single tax rate for FY11 as recommended by the Board of Assessors. The rate was set at \$14.83. During the year appointments were filled as vacancies to various committees occurred. The Board would like to thank all committee members for their dedication and hard work this past year. Plainfield could not operate without a staff of such volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Judith Feeley**  
Clerk for the Selectboard

## SHAW MEMORIAL LIBRARY

With the closing of the Western Mass. Regional Library System (WMRLS) in Whatley along with four others across the state. The Massachusetts Library System (MLS) was formed with the headquarters in Waltham and the Inter-Library Loan headquarters in Quincy. There were a few changes that we had to get use to, as well as doing I.L.L. alot different then in the past.

The Friends of WMRLS distributed what was left of a generous bequest from the estate of Rena Durkan. The smallest libraries formerly served by the bookmobile program (population under 3500). Our Library received a check for \$2,100 to be spent for books or audio books to stay within the wishes of Rena Durkin.

For National Library Week we had Tori Jarvis display her collections of Horses and Snow Globes, Ann Kohn her Thimble's and Bill Sheppard brought in his model of a ship. We also did an afternoon tea.

We had the following put their art work up for the public to enjoy.

Gary Rza	Gail Fusco
Sue Flores	Corey Powers
Rachel Kohn	Amy Schussar
Joan Boryta	Ron Scott

For programs we had author Kevin O'Hara come and do a talk on his latest book "A Lucky Irish Lad". Vince O'Connell and Kathy Swanson showed their film "You're Not Cindy".

We would like to THANK everyone who donated materials to us this past year.

Respectfully Submitted:  
**Denise Sessions** - Library Director  
**Sandy Morann** - Trustee Chair  
**Linda O'Dea** - Secretary  
**Ann Kohn** - Trustee

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals is your Town Board responsible for hearing and acting upon requests for variances and special permits in accordance with the Town of Plainfield Zoning Bylaw, and acting upon filed appeals of the building inspector as it pertains to the Zoning Bylaw. During the calendar year 2010, the Board conducted no hearings. We did however meet regularly on the second Wednesday of each month and at the request of residents, had informal discussions regarding Zoning Bylaw matters. We encourage residents and property owners to come before the Board for such discussions prior to a request for public hearing.

During 2010, the Board consisted of Bob Mellstrom as Chair, Dudley Williams and Joan Wattman as members. Sandy Moran and Ed Kohn remain as alternates. We continue to meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the Plainfield Town Hall.

In closing, the Board reminds all residents to carefully review the Plainfield Zoning Bylaw prior to any proposed change in residential, commercial or business use and any proposed building construction for proper compliance with the Bylaw. Your Building Inspector, Andy Stevens, and Board members are available to assist you.

Respectfully submitted,

**Robert Mellstrom, Chairman**  
**Dudley Williams**  
**Joan Wattman**

## ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT

I was appointed The Animal Control Officer in the Town of Plainfield in December of 2008. Over all there were a total of 89 calls between January and December 2010. These calls ranged from loose horses and cows to an emergency transport of a dog that spent the night in a frozen river; happily the dog survived!

Plainfield held a rabies clinic for the first time in a few years. After such a time without one we had a fairly good turnout. The clinic was made possible through the generosity of Dr. Morrison, who kindly spent a better part of a Saturday at Hathaway Hall. Half the proceeds from the clinic were donated to the Shaw Memorial Library to help offset regional budget cuts. We hope to make this a yearly tradition.

As a reminder, all dogs 6 months and older must be licensed by the town clerk by April 1st. Also remember that dog licenses expire March 31st of each year. To obtain a license please bring an up to date rabies certificate from a veterinarian to the town clerk. Please also note that all cats 6 months or older are also required an up to date rabies shot. This is State law not a town law. In addition Plainfield has a year round restraining order. Dog owners will be fully responsible for paying for any and all damages caused by an unrestrained dog.

I would also like to thank all the people and organizations that help me perform my duties as the Plainfield Animal Control Officer. Anyone with any questions or concerns can reach me on my cell phone at (413) 336-0228. Lost and Found Posters will be posted at Hathaway Hall.

Call Summary for 2010:

15 Unrestrained dog(s)	13 Lost dog(s)
10 Dog(s) confined	10 Dog(s) returned to owner
5 Barking/ nuisance dog(s) complaints	9 Cat(s) lost
3 Assist another agency	5 wounded wildlife
9 Animal Welfare/ cruelty check(s)	4 Loose livestock
5 Misc calls, Gen info inquires	1 Emergency transport

Respectfully submitted,

**Kyle P. Meservey**  
Plainfield Animal Control Officer



Gail Fusco

*Plainfield haute couture*

## AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

During 2010 the Agricultural Commission built on our work in 2009 and expanded our projects:

- We continued our public education about agricultural topics, showing "Dirt, the Movie" at Town Hall.
- Since one of our mandated roles as a commission is to mediate disputes involving agricultural issues, we felt it necessary to have a specific protocol to follow. After researching methods used in other towns we developed a "Grievance Protocol" which helps parties in a conflict bring their issues up for help and mediation.
- Using this newly developed Protocol we invited two disputing parties together before the Commission and the Select Board to discuss their grievances. The mediation effort was successful.
- A local artist redid the map for our brochure of agricultural businesses in Plainfield and updated the information. We printed and distributed this second edition.
- We continue to investigate the use of genetically engineered (GE or GMO) crops in Plainfield by a non-resident. To this end we asked for written information and a meeting with the Commission. We fielded complaints from the neighbors regarding the use of chemicals on those fields and helped answer questions about the nature of GE crops. This effort continues.
- As part of our educational role we began planning a film series for 2011.
- We helped initiate cooperation with the Franklin Land Trust to develop a community garden area on the Guyette property on Gloyd Street.

We continue to meet monthly, working on issues and projects to help promote and protect agriculture in Plainfield. Residents are always welcome to join us at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall on the first Thursday of each month. We are always available when residents have questions or concerns regarding responsible agricultural practices, have need for mediation of disputes, or have ideas for projects which the Agricultural Commission could sponsor.

Respectfully submitted,

**Ellen Gallerani Anna Hanchett, Chair**  
**Larry LaRock Winton Pitcoff, Secretary**

**Ed Stockman**  
**TREASURY RECEIPTS SUMMARY**  
**From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010**

Description	Amount
Personal Prop Taxes F2005	20.11
Personal Prop Taxes F2009	458.59
Personal Prop Taxes F2010	37,111.16
Real Estate Taxes F2005	200.00
Real Estate Taxes F2007	674.77
Real Estate Taxes F2008	68.44
Real Estate Taxes F2009	204,994.63
Real Estate Taxes F2010	1,115,255.70
Motor Vehicle Ex F2005	48.02
Motor Vehicle Ex F2006	375.94
Motor Vehicle Ex F2007	606.25
Motor Vehicle Ex F2008	695.50
Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	8,969.23
Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	36,261.24
Farm Animal Excise	775.50
Tax Titles	213.50
Estimated Receipts	925.92
Interest on Property Tax	4,389.00
Interest on Excise Taxes	674.33
Interest on Tax Titles	122.27
In Lieu of Taxes	4,500.00
Garbage/Trash Charges	1,788.00
Ch 71 Pupil Transportatio	4,853.00
Liquor Licenses	1,680.00
Board of Health Permits	555.00
Building Inspection Permi	6,372.24
Collector Fees	1,355.00
Compactor Cards	7,950.00
Board of Health Inspector	130.00
Electrical Permits	1,055.00
Plumbing Permits	1,328.00
Police Department Permits	125.00
Other Licenses and Permit	196.00
Town Clerk Sporting Licen	56.95
Copier Receipts	43.00
State Owned Land	15,313.00
Comm of Mass Elderly Reim	502.00
School Aid Chapter 70	53,150.00
Local Aid	11,050.00
Lottery	33,152.00
Court Fines	1,792.80
Dog License Fees	61.50
Interest on Savings	525.96
Contributions & Donations	473.00
Misc. Revenues N.O.C.	1,012.80
Room Tax	2,227.00
Mark Fees	80.00
Federal Withholding	23,106.54
ING	6,948.11
Medicare Withholding	3,466.73
State withholding	12,451.16
OBRA Voluntary	1,200.00
County Retirement	14,388.68
Dental Insurance With.	1,741.06
License to Carry/State	375.00
Div. Fisheries & Wildlife	492.75
BC/BS - Officials	13,784.88
Health Insurance	16,123.82
Dog Licenses	377.00
Elections - State	1,544.00

Library Grant	1,530.59
Cultural Council	4,000.00
Council on Aging - State	2,253.69
Chapter 291B	53,935.08
Town Hall Association	20.00
Emergency Management/FEMA	2,500.00
Septic System Rpr. Grant	4,050.69
Health Bd Emer Prep Grant	1,002.37
Ice Storm December 2008	76,679.18
Emergency Preparedness Grant 2010	8,922.00
STRAP Grant	47,792.29
Council on Aging Gifts	1,356.67
Library Gifts	255.00
Recreation/General	266.00
Playstructure @ Ballfield	10.00
Flag Gifts	100.00
Library Addition	37.07
Deputy Tax Collector Fees	397.00
Off-Duty Police Detail	18,881.00
Admin Fees Police Detail	1,710.00
Cemetery PC Fund	27.03
Arts Lottery Fund	7.97
M.Arvilla Dyer Lib. Fund	11.45
Whiting Street Fund	22.49
Stabilization	1,092.57
County Tax	225.00
Dog Fund	153.82
Cemetery Lot Int./Perpet.	429.74
Conservation Comm/Wetland	685.00
Library Sales & Fines	1,004.25
<b>Report Total</b>	<b>1,889,075.03</b>

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Once again in May of 2010 the Town of Plainfield was able to pass a town budget of increases under the 2 1/2 percent allowed limit. At the writing of this report, the respective town budgets are being reviewed by the Finance Committee in the shadow of rising costs and expected decreases in revenue from the Commonwealth in the form of local aid, Chapter 70 (education) and Chapter 90 (highway) funding. Any or all of this decreased revenue will have to be made up in local taxes.

At Town Meeting in May 2011, the Finance Committee will once again be obligated to present a budget to the Town which we as a committee feel will best serve its citizens by providing necessary services at a minimal financial sacrifice.

Respectfully submitted,  
**David Filkins, Chair**  
**Betti Briggs, David Briggs**  
**Robert Persing, Tim Walter**



Adam Kanzer

*Plainfield architecture*

# TAX COLLECTOR

Robert A. Worlidge

	Balance	Commitment	Omitted	Payments	Abatements	Refunds	Tax Title	Balance
2010 Real Estate	\$0.00	\$1,191,046.89	\$2,338.04	\$1,115,255.70	\$4,155.28	\$159.22		\$74,133.17
Personal	\$0.00	\$37,075.16		\$37,111.16				-\$36.00
Motor Vehicle	\$0.00	\$43,672.50		\$36,261.24	\$835.54			\$6,575.72
Farm Animal Excise	\$0.00	\$880.50		\$775.50				\$105.00
Forest Products Cut	\$0.00							\$0.00
2009 Real Estate	\$227,749.46			\$204,994.63	\$48.30	\$5,077.85		\$27,784.38
Personal	\$940.91			\$458.59				\$482.32
Motor Vehicle	\$7,370.60	\$5,837.14		\$8,969.23	\$578.43	\$407.13		\$4,067.21
Farm Animal Excise	\$980.50							\$980.50
Forest Products Cut	\$0.00							\$0.00
2008 Real Estate	\$13,583.14			\$68.44				\$13,514.70
Personal	\$0.00							\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$6,318.86	\$98.75		\$695.50		\$189.27		\$5,911.38
Farm Animal Excise	\$448.00							\$448.00
Roll-back	\$0.00							\$0.00
2007 Real Estate	\$13,254.30			\$674.77				\$12,579.53
Personal	\$0.00							\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$5,301.03			\$606.25				\$4,694.78
Farm Animal Excise	\$448.00							\$448.00
2006 Real Estate	\$3,960.26							\$3,960.26
Personal	\$2.26							\$2.26
Motor Vehicle	\$2,120.28			\$375.94				\$1,744.34
2005 Real Estate	\$3,556.07			\$200.00				\$3,356.07
Personal	\$367.10			\$20.11				\$346.99
Motor Vehicle	\$434.42			\$48.02				\$386.40
2004 Real Estate	\$1,034.19							\$1,034.19
Personal	\$143.81							\$143.81
Motor Vehicle	\$2,521.88							\$2,521.88
Farm Animal	-\$0.50							-\$0.50
2003 Real Estate	\$588.46							\$588.46
Personal	\$212.36							\$212.36
Motor Vehicle	\$925.08							\$925.08
2002 Real Estate	-\$815.25							-\$815.25
Personal Property	\$369.79							\$369.79
Motor Vehicle	\$845.55							\$845.55
Farm Animal Excise	\$0.30							\$0.30
2001 Real Estate	\$271.37							\$271.37
Personal Property	-\$152.82							-\$152.82
Motor Vehicle	\$130.67							\$130.67
Forest Products Cut	\$5.00							\$5.00
2000 Real Estate	\$825.33							\$979.41
Personal Property	\$203.96							\$203.96
Motor Vehicle	\$961.03							\$961.03
1999 Real Estate	\$1,216.62							\$1,216.62
Personal Property	\$499.10							\$499.10
Motor Vehicle	\$3,080.49							\$3,080.49
1998 Real Estate	-\$305.80							-\$305.80
Personal Property	-\$20.12							-\$20.12
Motor Vehicle	\$1,860.16							\$1,860.16
1997 Real Estate	\$617.26							\$617.26
Personal Property	\$630.18							\$630.18
Motor Vehicle	\$526.80							\$526.80
Farm Animal Excise	\$653.50							\$653.50
1996 Real Estate	\$389.78							\$389.78
Personal Property	\$609.19							\$609.19
Motor Vehicle	\$122.75							\$122.75
1995 Personal Property	\$323.46							\$323.46
Motor Vehicle	\$1,230.17							\$1,230.17
1994 Personal Property	\$149.49							\$149.49
Motor Vehicle	\$1,389.78							\$1,389.78
1993 Personal Property	\$1,224.82							\$1,224.82
Motor Vehicle	\$800.84							\$800.84



	Balance	Commitment	Omitted	Payments	Abatements	Refunds	Tax Title	Balance
1992 Personal Property	\$986.96							\$986.96
Motor Vehicle	\$573.86							\$573.86
1991 Personal Property	\$876.21							\$876.21
Motor Vehicle	\$960.00							\$960.00
1990 Personal Property	\$412.57							\$412.57
Motor Vehicle	\$646.47							\$646.47
1989 Personal Property	\$53.82							\$53.82
1988 Personal Property	\$18.50							\$18.50
1987 Personal Property	\$20.50							\$20.50
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$314,452.76</b>	<b>\$5,935.89</b>	<b>\$2,338.04</b>	<b>\$217,111.48</b>	<b>\$626.73</b>	<b>\$5,674.25</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$108,478.77</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
**Mary Lynn Sabourin**

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

### Tax Rate Recapitulation for Fiscal Year 2010 July 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2010

Total amount to be raised:	\$1,570,888.84
Total estimated receipts and revenues from other sources:	342,768.59
Net amount to be raised by taxation (Tax Levy):	1,228,120.25

### Valuation by Class

Residential	\$72,623,185.00
Commercial	8,256,684.00
Industrial	1,035,200.00
Personal Property	2,549,872.00

**Total Property Valuation** **\$84,464,941.00**

### Tax Levy By Class

Residential	\$1,055,941.11
Commercial	120,052.19
Industrial	15,051.81
Personal Property	37,075.14

**Total Tax Levy** **\$1,228,120.54**

**Fiscal Year 2010 Tax Rate: \$13.97**

Number of real estate transfers received in calendar year 2009	21
Number of motor vehicle excise bills sent:	
For registration year 2008.	2
For registration year 2009	134
For registration year 2010	650
Number of motor vehicle abatements granted:	
For registration year 2009	5
For registration year 2010	1,128.54
Exemptions for real estate granted:	6
Abatements for real estate granted	4
Abatements for personal property granted:	0
Tax Exempt Property:	
Value: Town, State, Charities, Audubon:	\$10,626,500.00
61 parcels—3,395.95 acres tax dollars	\$154,509.31

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Claude DuPont III, Chairman**  
**Wayne Phillips**  
**Wilma Lawrence**



Gail Fusco



# TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Balance Sheet from 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010

## ASSETS

CASH	Assets	Liabilities
General Cash	329,760.06	
<b>TOTAL FOR CASH</b>	<b>329,760.06</b>	

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2000	203.96	
Personal Prop Taxes F2002	369.79	
Personal Prop Taxes F2003	212.36	
Personal Prop Taxes F2004	143.81	
Personal Prop Taxes F2005	346.99	
Personal Prop Taxes F2006	2.26	
Personal Prop Taxes F2009	482.32	
Personal Prop Taxes F1987	20.50	
Personal Prop Taxes F1988	18.50	
Personal Prop Taxes F1989	53.82	
Personal Prop Taxes F1990	412.57	
Personal Prop Taxes F1991	876.21	
Personal Prop Taxes F1992	986.96	
Personal Prop Taxes F1993	1,224.82	
Personal Prop Taxes F1994	149.49	
Personal Prop Taxes F1995	323.46	
Personal Prop Taxes F1996	609.19	
Personal Prop Taxes F1997	630.18	
Personal Prop Taxes F1999	499.10	
<b>TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>	<b>7,566.29</b>	

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2000	979.41	
Real Estate Taxes F2001	271.37	
Real Estate Taxes F2003	588.46	
Real Estate Taxes F2004	1,034.19	
Real Estate Taxes F2005	3,356.07	
Real Estate Taxes F2006	3,960.26	
Real Estate Taxes F2007	12,579.53	
Real Estate Taxes F2008	13,514.70	
Real Estate Taxes F2009	27,784.38	
Real Estate Taxes F2010	74,133.17	
Real Estate Taxes F1996	389.78	
Real Estate Taxes F1997	617.26	
Real Estate Taxes F1999	1,216.62	
<b>TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES</b>	<b>140,425.20</b>	

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex F2000	961.03	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2001	130.67	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2002	845.55	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2003	925.08	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2004	2,521.88	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2005	386.40	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2006	1,744.34	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2007	4,694.78	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2008	5,911.38	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	4,067.21	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	6,575.72	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1990	646.47	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1991	960.00	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1992	573.86	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1993	800.84	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1994	1,389.78	

Motor Vehicle Ex 1995	1,230.17
Motor Vehicle Ex F1996	122.75
Motor Vehicle Ex F1997	526.80
Motor Vehicle Ex F1998	1,860.16
Motor Vehicle Ex F1999	3,080.49

**TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES 39,955.36**

FARM EXCISE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Farm Animal Excise	2,634.80	
Forest Products Cut	5.00	
<b>TOTAL FOR FARM EXCISE TAXES</b>	<b>2,639.80</b>	

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Titles	22,835.15	
Tax Possessions	49,494.91	
<b>TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES &amp; POSSESSIONS</b>	<b>72,330.06</b>	

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
Highway Chapter 291B	281,915.67	
<b>TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</b>	<b>281,915.67</b>	

LOANS AUTHORIZED	Assets	Liabilities
Due frm Stabilization Fnd	42,000.00	
<b>TOTAL FOR LOANS AUTHORIZED</b>	<b>42,000.00</b>	

**TOTAL ASSETS 916,592.44**

## LIABILITIES

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Prop Taxes F2001		152.82
Personal Prop Taxes F2010		36.00
Personal Prop Taxes F1998		20.12
<b>TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>		<b>208.94</b>

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2002		815.25
Real Estate Taxes F1998		305.80
<b>TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES</b>		<b>1,121.05</b>

REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Revenue Fiscal 2011		106,206.65
<b>TOTAL FOR REVENUE</b>		<b>106,206.65</b>

AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Federal Withholding		271.11
ING		77.29
Medicare Withholding		39.79
State Withholding		133.98
County Retirement		145.57
Dental Insurance With.		23.82
Div. Fisheries & Wildlife		15.00
BC/BS - Officials		2,271.04
Health Insurance Withholdings		151.25
Dog Licenses		95.00
Unclaimed checks		218.45
<b>TOTAL FOR AGENCY</b>		<b>3,442.30</b>

<b>GRANTS</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Elections - State		462.00
Library Grant	18,245.22	
Cultural Council	1,531.11	
Cult Council Enrich Fund	660.00	
Council on Aging - State	1,354.08	
Town Hall Project Gifts	610.00	
Town Hall Association	4,246.40	
Dog Kennel Gift	50.00	
Emergency Management/FEMA	2,297.00	
Homeland Security Grant	167.74	
Septic System Rpr. Grant	60,570.13	
Community Policing Grant	9,062.10	
Fire Equipment Grant	1,397.00	
Health Bd Emer Prep Grant	1,469.30	
Emergency Preparedness Grant 2010	6,766.08	
Council on Aging Gifts	1,356.67	
Library Gifts	1,728.83	
Cemetery Gifts	200.00	
Recreation/General	403.88	
Playstructure @ Ballfield	2,673.85	
Flag Gifts	238.11	
Library Addition	10,455.86	
Historical Comm Donation	11.74	
<b>TOTAL FOR GRANTS</b>		<b>125,957.10</b>

<b>REVOLVING</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Deputy Tax Collector Fees		552.00
Off-Duty Police Detail		312.09
Insurance Claim		206.33
Insurance Claim - Fire House		9,160.58
<b>TOTAL FOR REVOLVING</b>		<b>10,231.00</b>

<b>RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Cemetery Lot Int./Perpet. Care		897.87
Conservation Comm/Wetland		1,139.56
Library Sales & Fines		92.00
<b>TOTAL FOR RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP</b>		<b>2,129.43</b>

<b>OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Overlay F1987		20.50
Overlay F1988		18.50
Overlay F1989		53.82
Overlay F1990		412.57
Overlay F1991		876.21
Overlay F1992		986.96
Overlay F1993		1,224.82
Overlay F1994		149.49
Overlay F1995		323.46
Overlay F1996		998.97
Overlay F1997		1,247.44
Overlay F1999		1,573.29
Overlay F2000		1,029.29
Overlay F2001		271.37
Overlay F2002		369.79
Overlay F2003		800.82
Overlay F2004		1,178.00
Overlay F2005		3,923.17
Overlay F2006		3,962.52
Overlay F2007		5,074.40

Overlay F2008	5,215.43
Overlay F2009	3,834.36
Overlay F 2010	7,761.18

**TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE 41,306.36**

<b>REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Tax Title & Poss. Rev.		72,330.06
Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		39,955.36
Special Tax Revenue		2,639.80
Hwy Chapter 291B Revenue		281,915.67
Cemetery Lot Revenue		13,010.00
<b>TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL</b>		<b>409,850.89</b>

<b>SURPLUS REVENUE</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Surplus Revenue		216,138.72
<b>TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE</b>		<b>216,138.72</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES 916,592.44**

<b>TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Trust Cash	377,028.89	
Due To General Fund		42,000.00
Cemetery PC Fund		2,718.65
Arts Lottery Fund		4,370.71
M. Arvilla Dyer Lib. Fnd		2,786.41
Martha Smith Library Fund		3,860.57
Whiting Street Fund		5,467.44
Stabilization		315,825.11
<b>TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>377,028.89</b>	<b>377,028.89</b>

<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
Inside Debt Limit	484,285.00	
Hwy Dump Truck		100,300.00
Public Safety Building Loan		362,385.00
Hwy Pick Up Truck		21,600.00
<b>TOTAL FOR LONG TERM DEBT</b>	<b>484,285.00</b>	<b>484,285.00</b>



# All Departments Expenditure Report

From 07/01/2009 to 06/30/2010

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CARRY FWD	ORIG BUD	AMENDED	ENCUMB	EXPEND	UNENCUM BAL	% EXP
Board of Selectmen		5,000.00			5,000.00		100.00 %
Town Office Expense		8,800.00			7,074.35	1,725.65	80.39 %
Treasurer		9,517.00			9,517.00		100.00 %
Administrative Secretary		10,500.00			10,500.00		100.00 %
Moderator		30.00			30.00		100.00 %
Accountant		10,152.00			10,152.00		100.00 %
Tax Title Expense		2,000.00	-1,006.00			994.00	0.00 %
Training /Seminar Expense		500.00 -	500.00				100.00 %
Town Counsel		4,000.00			3,040.83	959.17	76.02 %
Assessors		4,050.00			3,411.6	9 638.31	84.23 %
Assessors Salaries		35,994.00			35,789.28	204.72	99.43 %
Tax Collector		7,275.00			6,024.49	1,250.51	82.81 %
Collectors Salaries		8,912.00			8,91	1.92 0.08	99.99 %
Town Clerk		1,625.00			1,624.44	0.56	99.96 %
Town Clerk Salary		5,305.00			5,305.00		100.00 %
Conservation Commission		500.00			477.32	22.68	95.46 %
Finance Committee		150.00			126.00	24.00	84.00 %
Planning Board		400.00			90.00	310.00	22.50 %
Zoning Board		200.00				200.00	0.00 %
Hamp. Council of Govt.		1,072.75	0.01		1,072.76		100.00 %
Highway Salaries		129,500.00	-4,804.45		119,664.99	5,030.56	95.96 %
Highway General		28,900.00			27,810.20	1,089.80	96.22 %
Machinery Upkeep		46,200.00			44,169.62	2,030.38	95.60 %
Hwy 2009 Dump Truck w/ Wing			100,300.00		100,300.00		100.00 %
Winter Roads		42,091.00	10,422.39		52,513.39		100.00 %
Street Lights		675.00			542.05	132.95	80.30 %
Mohawk Reg. School Operat		556,929.00			556,840.00	89.00	99.98 %
Mohawk Regional School		45,541.00			45,541.00		100.00 %
Vocational Tuition		160,429.00	28,235.00		186,763.22	1,900.78	98.99 %
School Committee Expense		500.00			480.72	19.28	96.14 %
Shaw Memorial Library		13,438.00			13,438.00		100.00 %
W. Frank.Vet. Dist.		2,487.00			2,487.00		100.00 %
Cemetery Commission		3,400.00			3,399.87	0.13	99.99 %
Veterans' Graves/Mem. Day		75.00	205.80		280.80		100.00 %
Police Department		7,022.00	-337.46		6,409.53	275.01	95.88 %
Radio Repair & Maint.		1,500.00			445.40	1,054.60	29.69 %
Police Salaries		7,100.00	337.47		7,437.47		100.00 %
Fire Department		11,110.00			10,741.29	368.71	96.68 %
Highland Ambulance EMS		8,008.00			8,008.00		100.00 %
Highland Ambulance Capital		1,268.00			1,268.00		100.00 %
Fire Chief Salary		3,100.00			3,100.00		100.00 %
Building Alarms		1,225.00	10.50		1,235.50		100.00 %
Building Inspector		9,300.00	540.00		9,840.00		100.00 %
Plumbing Inspector		1,800.00			1,800.00		100.00 %
Electrical Inspector		2,070.00			1,800.00	270.00	86.95 %
60291.00 Emergency Management/CD		1,000.00			1,000.00		0.00 %
60292.00 Animal Control Officer		1,000.00			1,000.00		100.00 %
60292.03 Animal Control Off. Exp.		600.00			345.64	254.36	57.60 %
60292.05 Barn & Cattle Inspector		200.00			200.00		100.00 %
60293.00 Immunizations		500.00				500.00	0.00 %
60293.01 EMT Training		900.00			900.00		100.00 %
60294.00 Tree Warden		3,000.00	-1,475.00		1,525.00		100.00 %
70431.00 Compactor		24,409.00	-574.60		22,282.32	1,552.08	93.48 %
70431.01 Compactor Salary		5,095.00	656.84		5,751.84		100.00 %
70431.02 Hilltown Res. Mgmtnt Coop		1,807.00			1,806.76	0.24	99.98 %
80710.00 Pick-up Truck Loan		7,200.00			7,200.00		100.00 %
80713.00 Public Safety Bldg. Bond Prin.		9,537.00			9,537.00		100.00 %
80751.00 Int. Long-term Debt		18,075.69	2,006.00		20,081.69		100.00 %
80752.00 Int. Short-term Debt		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
90192.00 Insurance		62,005.00	-15,240.00		46,765.00		100.00 %

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	CARRY FWD	ORIG BUD	AMENDED	ENCUMB	EXPEND	UNENCUM BAL	% EXP
Town Building Repair		7,700.00			2,065.80	5,634.20	26.82 %
ADA		100.00				100.00	0.00 %
Twn. Bldg. Operations		35,000.00			30,797.69	4,202.31	87.99 %
Twn. Bldg. Sup/Maint/Cust	53.10		7,350.00		5,852.81	1,550.29	79.05 %
Hwy. Garage Fuel Tanks			18,000.00			18,000.00	0.00 %
Town Reports		1,000.00			750.00	250.00	75.00 %
Council on Aging		737.00				737.00	0.00 %
Recreation Committee		3,110.00			2,485.86	624.14	79.93 %
Flags/Flowers		300.00			283.18	16.82	94.39 %
Historical Commission		50.00				50.00	0.00 %
Agricultural Commission		200.00			53.57	146.43	26.78 %
County Retirement		28,155.00			28,155.00		100.00 %
Medicare		3,700.00			3,503.39	196.61	94.68 %
Unemployment		750.00			520.61	229.39	69.41 %
Chapter 32B Medical Ins.		48,821.00			47,926.24	894.76	98.16 %
Reserve Fund		3,000.00	-338.56			2,661.44	0.00 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>53.10</b>	<b>1,475,952.44</b>	<b>135,437.94</b>		<b>1,554,252.53</b>	<b>57,190.95</b>	
<b>Total GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>53.10</b>	<b>1,475,952.44</b>	<b>135,437.94</b>		<b>1,554,252.53</b>	<b>57,190.95</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>53.10</b>	<b>1,475,952.44</b>	<b>135,437.94</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,554,252.53</b>	<b>57,190.95</b>	



Gail Fusco



## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Each town and city in Massachusetts has a Conservation Commission, which is charged with protecting the town's wetlands resources under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (1972) (General Law Chapter 131, Section 40). This law ([www.state.ma.us/dep](http://www.state.ma.us/dep)) prohibits the removal, dredging, filling or altering of wetlands without a permit. Residents planning construction or alteration on their property should contact a member of the Plainfield Conservation Commission for a Request for Determination (RDA) to determine if their property falls under our jurisdiction. We will inspect your property and issue a positive or negative determination. A negative determination which implies there is no negative impact, states that the area/work does not fall under our jurisdiction, approves resource area boundaries, or approves alternative analysis. Under some negative determinations the project may go forward but certain conditions might apply. If the determination is positive which implies positive findings, which states that the area/work does fall under the jurisdiction of the Act and therefore a Notice of Intent must be completed and submitted to the Conservation Commission and Department of Environmental Protection. The five members of the Plainfield Conservation Commission work with property owners to insure that all interests are addressed.

The Plainfield Conservation Commission's public meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission's usual business includes reviewing applications for building permits and forest cutting plans in order to ensure compliance with the Wetlands Protection Act (1972) and the more recent Rivers Protection Act (1996). Members of the Commission also make site visits to help property owners identify possible resource areas and buffer zones. The Commission also serves an educational role for the community. Members attend workshops on conservation issues and can in turn serve to raise community awareness of Plainfield's rich natural history and needs.

During 2010 the Plainfield Conservation Commission:

### **Held public hearings for Notices of Intent for:**

- Paul Thompson, 7/27/10, 108 E. Main Street, driveway crossing
- Peter Haras property, 39 Stetson Ave., further information is necessary as outlined by the DEP

### **Held public meetings for:**

- the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to explain the Flexible Pond Leveler that should be a long-term solution to the beavers that create a dam safety problem
- Claude Dupont, highway superintendent, RDA for work on Prospect and Summit Streets, 7/27/10
- RDA submitted by Joseph Wilhelm for Schmitt property, 240 S. Central, a negative determination was issued

### **Site Visits** were made to:

- Burrells, 18 Stetson Ave., 3/20/10
- Bruce Rustemeyer, 132 Grant Street
- Leon Tuthill, 108 E Main St, Enforcement Order was issued requiring that all work must cease and a NOI be filed
- Crooked Pond dam area where a Beaver Deceiver will be installed
- Schmitt property, 240 S. Central, Judy Williams & Sue LaRock 9/26/10
- Alice Schertle and Judy Williams inspected the placement of hay bales on Prospect Street
- Judy Ferber, 14 North Union Street, regarding installation of a septic system, 10/2/10
- Penn Moulton, 27 Broom Street, in regards to establishing a Green Cemetery

### **Other Business:**

The commission established a flat fee of \$35 to cover the cost of placing a required legal advertisement in the newspaper. A check made out to the Town of Plainfield must be submitted to the conser



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vation commission before the ad is placed.

On Feb. 23, 2010 the members of the Conservation Commission attended the MA Division of Conservation Services meeting in Goshen on Strategies for Success with State Conservation Grants.

On March 30, 2010 representatives from WMECO Calvin Layton, Senior Vegetation Manager and Maurice Dumas, Transmission Arboist gave a presentation describing WMECO's vegetation control program.

Emily Stockman attended the Annual MACC Environmental Conference in Worcester on Feb. 27, 2010.

The Conservation Commission purchased and planted two maple trees on property near the Plainfield Library and town offices.

An RDA for continuation of work at Burrell property on Stetson Ave., was approved by members of the Conservation Commission.

Emily Boss attended a meeting in Boston, 9/28/10, regarding the Commonwealth Quality Seal Program supporting local products made in MA.

Alice Schertle and Judy Williams attended a meeting on the Green Cemetery proposed by Penn Moulton.

The members of the Conservation Commission wish to thank Emily Stockman for her dedicated service to the conservation commission. Her presence is sorely missed.

Respectfully submitted

**Emily Boss, Sue LaRock,  
Alice Schertle, Judith Williams (Chair)**



## HIGHLAND AMBULANCE EMS

**Operations.** Highland Ambulance is the primary ambulance service provider for the towns of Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield and Williamsburg. In 2010 Highland also provided primary back-up and provider of Paramedic service in the town of Worthington in support of Hilltown Ambulance of Huntington. Paramedics are on duty at Highland's station in Goshen from 6 AM until midnight seven days a week. During the midnight to 6 AM time period, on-call Highland EMT's are assisted by Paramedics from other ambulance companies when the service of a Paramedic is required.

**Staffing and Training.** Highland's active roster consists of 40 members including 15 Paramedics, 3 Intermediate EMT's and 22 Basic EMT's. In 2010 two Highland EMT's completed their training and were certified as Paramedics. We installed computer software to meet new State and Federal reporting requirements and the staff was trained in its use.

**Emergency Responses.** During 2010 Highland responded to 588 emergency calls. These are broken down by Town as follows:

Ashfield	110	Chesterfield	61
Cummington	71	Worthington	48
Goshen	56	Plainfield	38
Williamsburg	193	Other	11

Out of these responses, 328 required advanced life support services of a paramedic.

**Community Involvement.** During the year we participated in a school safety program at Sanderson Academy in Ashfield. We held a First Responder course in order to recertify our area Police and Fire emergency responders. Our 2010 Annual Fund Drive raised nearly \$15,000 that helped fund equipment upgrades. The depth of community support we receive is greatly appreciated.

### Cash On Hand June 30, 2010

Operating Funds	\$ 22,048.54
Memorial Fund	12,128.51
Equipment Fund	1,059.28
Dresser Fund	2,981.47
Reserve Funds	
Cummington Funds	4,659.64
Williamsburg Funds	4,583.28
Highland Funds	3,076.37
Total	\$ 12,319.29
<b>Total Cash On Hand</b>	<b>\$ 50,537.09</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Highland Ambulance Board of Directors**

<b>Ashfield, Patricia Thayer</b>	<b>Plainfield, Stacey Magdycz</b>
<b>Chesterfield, Spencer Timm</b>	<b>Cummington, James Drawe</b>
<b>Williamsburg, Christopher Smith</b>	<b>At-Large, Francis Dresser</b>
<b>At-Large, Bernard Forgea</b>	<b>At-Large, Douglas Mollison</b>

## CULTURAL COUNCIL

This year yet again, the continuing economic recession affected the funding of Massachusetts local cultural councils. Our grant from the commonwealth was reduced, from \$4300 two years ago to \$4000 last year to \$3800, a drop of over 12% in two years. Conversely, the number of applicants seeking funds rose by over 12%, to 32 over last year's 28. As we did last year, we made use of locally raised funds to assist as many worthy projects as possible. We made grants totaling \$4700 to 16 individuals and organizations. Our largest grant, in the amount of \$900, went to the Plainfield Congregational Church for its Concerts at 7 series. We also supported programs that will take place in Plainfield at the town hall, the Guyette farm, the Shaw Memorial Library, and Earthdance, as well as several programs for students in the Mohawk school district. As in previous years, in judging grants we showed a preference for projects initiated by Plainfield residents, that will take place in Plainfield, or in which we believe Plainfield residents will participate as presenters or members of the audience.

In addition to offering financial support to local cultural projects, the Plainfield Cultural Council again sponsored the Labor Day ArtsFeast exhibition in the Shaw Memorial Library during the Firefighters' barbecue. We had a great turnout on a beautiful September day. Peri Kelly supervised the installation of the exhibit, and we thank Plainfield librarian Denise Sessions for her help.

This year saw the resignation from the council of Lynda Christie and Cynthia Poirier, and the reappointment of Dario and Rebecca Coletta after a year's absence.

Respectfully submitted,  
**David Kramer**, chair  
**Dario Coletta**  
**Rebecca Coletta**  
**Eric Burcroff**, secretary  
**Gail Fusco**, publicist  
**Elaine Holder**  
**Peri Kelly**  
**June Persing**



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Michael Melle at ArtsFeast

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

During the calendar year 2010 the Plainfield Police Department had 220 incidents, 57 of which were motor vehicle stops. The breakdown by incident type is listed below:

No Classification	5	M/V Complaint	2
911 Hang-Up	5	M/V Violation	1
911 Misdial	7	Medical	22
Accident - Damage	4	Miscellaneous	4
Accident - Injury	4	Missing Persons	8
Alarm	15	Motor Vehicle Stops	57
Animal Complaint	17	Noise Complaint	1
Assault	2	Officer Wanted	9
Assist Other Agency	1	Paperwork Service	1
B&E - Building	3	Prowler	1
Building Check	2	Psychological Emergency	1
Check Welfare	5	Safety Hazard	2
Disabled M/V	9	Shots Fired	1
Disorderly	1	Summons	1
Dog Complaint	1	Suspicious Person	3
Domestic	2	Suspicious Vehicle	2
Fire	7	Traffic Hazard	3
Investigation	5	Vandalism	1
Juvenile Offense	2	Wires Down	1
Larceny under \$250	1	Liquor Offense	1

The above incidents were reported to Northampton Control by dialing 911. If you need a police officer, the fire department, or an ambulance call 911. If you are unsure if your problem warrants calling 911 then call 413 586-1508 to speak to a Northampton Control dispatcher about your problem. To leave a message for the Plainfield Police call 413 634 -0139.

The Plainfield Police Department office hours are the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 am until noon, and the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 until 9:00 pm.

We wish to thank the residents of Plainfield, the Fire and Ambulance Service, the Highway Department, and everyone else who has helped us, for their continuing support. The cooperation shown between Departments, agencies and individuals in the Town of Plainfield is one of the reasons that make Plainfield a great community.

Special thanks to the families of police officers and emergency service personnel for their help.

Respectfully Submitted,

**David Wood, Chief**

**Stacey Magdycz, Asst. Chief**

**Scott Dupont, Regular Police Officer**

**Sandra Morann, Special Police Officer**

**Merton Taylor, Sr., Special Police Officer**

**Kyle Meservy, Animal Control Officer**

## PLAINFIELD FIRE EMS DEPARTMENT

In April, we hosted the 40 Hour Red Card class in Plainfield. It was attended by 52 firefighters from Western Massachusetts. Plainfield had 14 attend with 12 completing the class. This class is needed to be placed on the Massachusetts Wildfire team, which is called upon to fight wildland fires all over United States. Hopefully we will never see fires like they get out west, but having this training will help keep our firefighters safer with the ones we do have.

Communication is important in an emergency. During the ice storm of 2008 we were unable to communicate with crews cleaning up on the eastern side of town, with the crews on the western side



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Fireman's Barbeque

of town, as well as the people doing wellbeing checks. The highway department was also unable to talk to other trucks, if both were in a deadspot. This problem was solved with the cooperation of many. The Plainfield Volunteer Firefighters Association bought a year old repeater for 20 percent the cost of a new one from a Police department that had changed frequency. WMECO allowed us a location on their tower and Massachusetts State Police gave the town space in their building that houses their radio equipment to house ours. Two new frequencies were required for this system to work. After more than two years of work, the system was operational in November with the PVFA funding the rest of the equipment and installation. As of December 31 2012, all radios need to operate on a narrower band, 12.5 MHz instead of 25MHz. The new equipment installed on the tower is compatible with narrow banding. We have some pagers, portables and mobile radios that need to be replaced. The PVFA is raising money for this.

We received a Kawasaki mule through the federal excess property program; this will give us off-road capability. The PVFA purchased a slide-in unit that will allow us to transport a patient from the remote location to a waiting Ambulance. The unit also can carry 75 gallons of water with its own pump that can be used on or off the Mule.

#### Calls for the year:

Missing Person	2	Stand-by	1
Alarm Sounding	1	Medical	32
Power line Down	6	Medical Alarm	3
MVA	2	Smoke Investigation	1
Illegal Burn	2	In service	1
Snowmobile Accident	1	Rescue	2
Brush Fire	2	Structure Fire	1
Vehicle Fire	1	Carbon Monoxide	1

#### Mutual Received:

Cumington	7	Savoy	2
Ashfield	4	Worthington	1
Goshen	1	Windsor	1
District 10 Fire Control	1		

#### Mutual Aid Given:

Cumington	5	Ashfield	4
Windsor	1	Savoy	1

#### Total Calls: 78

Submitted by:

**Dennis Thatcher**, Fire Chief

## BOARD OF HEALTH

Davio Danielson, Ruby Goodnoff, and David Crowell continue as the three elected members of the Plainfield Board of Health. Three other people work for the Board: Ray Adams is Plainfield's attendant at the compactor, always there Saturdays, 9-12, Sundays 4-6, and Wednesdays 6-7. In addition, Barbara Curran of Williamsburg (296-4243) is Plainfield's official witness for Title V perc tests, and Tom Leue of Ashfield, a registered sanitarian, serves as our on-call consultant to review complex septic plans. We also want to thank Andy Stevens, Plainfield's Building Inspector, for selling dump cards on Saturday mornings.

The transfer station is our most visible activity, and the compactor has been a matter of grave concern this year. When the "experts" told us it had to be replaced immediately last March, Claude Dupont suggested trying to keep it going with a repair. We want to thank him and the crew at the Highway Department for their skill at welding and jury-rigging a fix that seems to be working. We also want to thank the Building Committee for putting a new roof on the shed that (now) keeps Ray Adams dry when it's raining.

BPH also issues licenses and permits, enforces regulations for Title V, safe housing standards, animal-borne diseases, sanitation, food



Adam Kanzer

safety rules, and monitors the water quality at the beach at Plainfield Pond. We respond to complaints about unhealthy conditions and substandard housing, and conduct investigations of disease outbreaks. This year we were involved in setting requirements for the disposal of cow carcasses from the Thatcher farm incident, and we held a formal, and well-attended hearing on a proposal to create a natural cemetery at Back Acres.

Everything seems to be running fairly smoothly on all fronts, although the growing number of tick-borne illnesses in Town concerns us. Please take tick precautions. If you are bitten by a little deer tick, prompt treatment and medical follow-up is highly recommended because untreated Lyme Disease can have serious consequences.

BPH also connects with many State and Federal initiatives. Last year we wrote a grant application and received a \$6500 grant for Plainfield from Homeland Security. The grant provided funds for two HINI Clinics at the Public Safety Complex. The funds have been carried over and may, in time, support the creation of a new and secure office for the Board that meets regulatory requirements. This was an initiative Ruby announced last year and she is nothing if not tenacious.

BPH-related revenues for last year, excluding the grant, were \$685.00 for permits and inspections, \$7,950.00 for compactor cards, and \$1,788.00 for open-top disposal. Davio represents Plainfield on the board of the Hilltown Resource Management Collaborative, which, through a high-level of recycling has helped Plainfield keep disposal costs as low as possible. (See HRMC report.)

To contact the Board of Health in writing please use P.O. Box 8 in Plainfield. Any questions, suggestions, or public health concerns can be brought to a BPH meeting at the Town Hall on the first or third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Davio Danielson, Chair**



## RECREATION COMMITTEE

We had a successful baseball year. All the participants exhibited excellent sportsmanship and teamwork. We had four players make the all star team. A big thank you goes to the coaches for a great job. Also thank you to the parents for their support and help.

Every one had a great time at the annual Halloween Party. Gale and Dave Bulissa of Peppermint Park provided hayrides with their tractor and wagon, which was aptly decorated for the occasion. The carved and lit pumpkins on the Library lawn were spectacular.

We also had a fun time at the Dec. holiday craft making party. We made many different crafts and cookies and popcorn balls. We enjoyed eating the goodies with hot chocolate before going home.

We'd like to thank the highway crew for hauling the sand and spreading it at the beach. Also thanks for mowing around the beach.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sandra Morann**

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Plainfield made it through another winter! The winter of 2010-2011 was the longest and most difficult winter Plainfield has seen in years. I would like to thank everyone who helped the department to get through it smoothly: full time employees Sparky and Mert, Jr. and part time help Dennis Thatcher, Edward Morann, Al Smith, and Mert Taylor, Sr.

The department is still working on a grant to repair Rte. 116 from its junction with Rte. 8A to the Savoy town line. It is hoped that the project can be completed within the next two years.

A committee has been appointed for the purpose of long range planning for Plainfield roads and highway department equipment.

Respectfully submitted,

**Claude DuPont III**

**Highway Superintendent**

## TREE WARDEN

Many dead and dying trees on the sides of the roads have been removed making Plainfield's roads safer for travelers and reducing the chance for power outages. The Historical Commission has replaced many of the trees that have been removed.

Respectfully submitted,

**Claude DuPont III**

**Tree Warden**



Adam Kanzer

# **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**HAWLEMONT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## **Introduction**

Focused on student learning, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts concentrated on the implementation of their district improvement plans. Each of these improvement plans is guided by five educational goals, which were adopted by the school committees of each district. This annual report is structured according to these five overarching educational goals, which are fairly consistent across the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts.

## **Student Safety**

In May of 2010, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enacted an anti-bullying law touted as the strictest in the United States. The new law required all public school districts to develop a Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan by December 31, 2010. With student safety as their number one educational goal, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe districts met this requirement in spirited fashion. Each of the three districts developed and implemented anti-bullying plans that exceeded the Commonwealth's requirements. As part of this effort, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts researched and purchased an anti-bullying program for grades 3-6. The Mohawk district also began researching social skills programs for middle school and high school students. Each of the districts' plans will be reviewed and revised annually with the goal of cultivating positive school cultures that promote academic achievement.

## **Diverse Learning Opportunities**

Related arts and grade level teachers from across the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts established a joint committee to find ways to sustain, grow and integrate related arts programming at all grade levels. As a result of the initiative and dedication of this three district committee, dubbed the Arts Integration Model (AIM) group, a plan was developed for a colonial fair involving 5th grade students from Mohawk, Hawlemont and Rowe. Tied to common social studies learning standards, the three district event will take place at the Wilder Homestead in Buckland on June 1, 2011. Beyond the anticipated success of this colonial fair, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts will continue to explore opportunities to integrate the fine arts into the core academic curriculums.

## **Quality Instruction**

Because student learning is highly impacted by quality teaching, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts provided extensive professional development for the teachers and paraprofessionals of the three districts. In particular during 2010, the Mohawk and Hawlemont staffs received training for a new mathematics program shared by the two districts. Additionally, all three district instructional staffs were provided a copy of the book entitled *Teach Like a Champion* at the start of the 2010-2011 school year. This book is being used as a professional development resource to spur and share best instructional practices. Looking ahead, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts began to prepare a professional development plan and calendar for the 2011-2012 school year that would expand and deepen the quality of training for the instructional staffs of the three districts.

## **High Standards**

In 2010, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts continued the implementation of the standards-based elementary report cards that began during the prior year. These standards are mapped to state learning standards, which are assessed annually by the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). As part of an ongoing effort to strengthen and expand the use of differentiated instruction, tiered instructional training was provided to all staff in the three districts at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Additionally, the Mohawk and Hawlemont districts researched and selected a new

math program for grades K-5, which is mapped to state standards-Houghton Mifflin's Math Expressions. The Mohawk and Hawlemont districts also researched and selected a new math program for grade 6, similarly mapped to state standards- MacDougal-Littel Math I. This new 6<sup>th</sup> grade math program will align with the current middle school math program and help facilitate more consistent student transition from elementary to middle school.

## **Community Building**

In the preparation of the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plans, the three districts gathered survey data from 645 students, 447 parents and 239 staff members. This community input was a key contributor to the adopted anti-bullying plans. The school districts developed a parent anti-bullying brochure intended to help parents support their children in the event of a bullying concern. The districts also developed an anonymous anti-bullying report tool to facilitate communications between the school districts and the wider community in the event of bullying concerns. Additionally, in order to help build community relations, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts established annual schedules for providing regular district improvement planning progress reports in public meetings.

## **The Year Ahead**

While it appears that the Commonwealth's funding of public education will likely decrease substantially in the 2011-2012 school year, the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts are committed to providing the best education possible for the students. Whatever the funding level turns out to be, student learning will continue to be the guiding beacon of the Mohawk-Hawlemont-Rowe school districts in 2011.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Michael A. Buoniconti  
Superintendent of Schools**

## **PRINCIPAL**

### **Mohawk Trail Regional High School**

This year saw some visible changes at Mohawk with the appointment of a new principal, Lynn R. Dole, and the installation of a dramatic work of art in the front foyer. Mohawk became the nation's first high school to feature an original design by artist Sol LeWitt, whose *Wall Drawing #905* now graces a wall in the school's entrance. The project developed after Mohawk student Lindsay Smith was inspired to contact the LeWitt estate after seeing the artist's work during a school field trip to MassMoCA in North Adams. Teacher Scott Whitney coordinated the effort to bring the artist's work to Mohawk and the wall drawing was made possible through the generosity of many in the community, including gifts from the Class of 2010 and the Class of 2011.

At the midpoint of the 2010-2011 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 579 students. The seventh grade has 117 students and the eighth grade has 106. There are 95 students in the ninth grade, 94 in the tenth grade, 92 students in the junior class, and 75 students in the senior class.

Student athletes continue to distinguish themselves on the playing fields and in the classroom. This year marked significant milestones in the accomplishments of long-standing Mohawk coaches. Coach Lynn Hoepfner achieved her 100<sup>th</sup> career win with the field hockey team this fall. Coach Joe Chadwick celebrated his 1000<sup>th</sup> career victory, coaching athletes in cross-country, winter track, and track and field. The dedicated commitment of the adults who support our student athletes, including parents, coaches, and the generous support of the Mohawk Athletic Association, has made it possible for Mohawk athletics to flourish.

Mohawk students are engaged in the community, making connections between what they learn in the classroom and their role as citizens locally and globally. To cite a few examples: middle school students volunteered with the Shelburne Falls Senior Center's Day of Service in the fall and students in the TV Studio course have been col-



laborating with the Falls Cable Corporation on a variety of projects, including hosting a televised debate among the candidates for the seat in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Second Berkshire District. Students in Roxanne Trombly's Peer Leadership course have organized workshops for middle school students focused on respect and preventing bullying behaviors and have done outreach in some of the elementary schools. This year marked the second time Mohawk students have participated in an exchange with a sister school in the Netherlands.

There are increasing opportunities for students to be involved with creative expression. Music director DoraThea Kastanas organized an all-district musical in the fall, involving elementary and high school students in all aspects of the production, and we are preparing for the spring all-school musical. The Mohawk Music Association provides valuable support for music programming. The Mohawk Arts and Education Council (MAEC) recently staged a production of Edward Albee's "The Zoo Story" and will be performing Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" in the spring. The Mohawk Writers Society organizes workshops for students in the middle school and the high school, bringing local authors in to share their work and guide students in writing exercises.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn R. Dole, Principal**

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION and PUPIL SERVICES**

### **Introduction**

Eligibility for Special Education services is determined by a three step process. Initially, the student has to have a specific, identified disability. The student then needs to fail to make effective progress in appropriate curriculum after general education interventions have been delivered. Lastly, the student must demonstrate the need for specialized instruction or related services to access the curriculum. The Mohawk Trail Regional School System has continued to provide education programs of specialized and individualized instruction and classroom support for qualifying students in all grades. Related services, including speech and language therapy, occupational and physical therapy, assistive technology, and counseling, are also provided in each of the three districts.

### **Student Body Profile**

The percentage of special education students in the Districts has declined steadily over the last few years. The percentage of enrollment on Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) in the Mohawk District has dropped from 21% in 2007 to 19% in the current year. In Hawlemont Regional the percentage has moved from a high in 2008 of 32% to 26 %; and, in Rowe, from 21% to 14%. The State average of students on IEPs is 17% of the enrollment. A combination of factors has influenced the number of students who participate in these specialized service programs.

### **Collaboration**

Professional development of special and general education staff has lead to better understanding of the eligibility process and continues to support educators in their efforts to provide relevant services to all students. General education interventions have reduced the number of students referred for special education evaluation. The Districts' support of a tiered intervention system allows the truly disabled child to be included in the mainstream setting as fully as possible while providing all students the extra attention they may need from time to time with learning new skills and concepts. This system of instruction relies on frequent skill assessment that can inform instructional choices made by teachers and lead to quick a response when a student is falling behind.

### **Looking Ahead**

As the Districts move forward in designing and delivering the best

educational opportunity to students with a variety of needs, the path remains defined by the state standards, twenty-first century living skills, and assistive technology. Our understanding of Special Education laws and regulations, as well individual student needs, continues to make the Mohawk Trail Regional School System a good place for students to achieve their best.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Bell  
Director of Pupil Personnel Services**

## **CARL H. NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the school district and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year the Awards subcommittee read 96 applications, 35 were from seniors and 61 from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$34,600.00 is to be awarded using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources, while graduates have far fewer resources. 26 scholarships totaling \$10,100 were awarded to seniors (80% of applicants). 45 scholarships totaling \$24,500 were given to graduates (74% of applicants). The awards committee is Sheila Graves, Marion Scott, Marge Porrovecchio, Eric Sumner, and Michelle Hillman.

From 1991-2010 a total of \$723,375.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$223,525.00 and \$499,850.00 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

Co-chairs of the committee are Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett.

The Finance Committee is composed of David Engle, Marion Taylor and Jim Pilgrim. Judy Hoyt is continuing her role as our financial advisor.

Other members of the committee are: David Purington, Ellen Purinton and Rebecca Bradley.

We welcome Marion Taylor, member at large, to our committee, she will join the Finance Committee, filling the vacancy left by Nancy Dole, who chose to leave the committee. We are grateful for Nancy's years of service.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and were living in the nine town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs. Call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle F. Hillman, Secretary**

## **PRINCIPAL SANDERSON ACADEMY**

2010 was another successful and exciting year for Sanderson Academy. It was a year that saw strong academic performances from students and some new academic initiatives being engaged in by staff and students. We saw the retirement of a beloved classroom teacher and enjoyed some significant connections with the community at large.

Our enrollment on the last day of 2010 was 127 students in grades K-6, a slight reduction from the previous year. The number of students at each grade level are as follows: 16 children in kindergarten,

23 children in two first grade classrooms, 20 children in grade two, grade three has 13 students, fourth grade has 20 students, fifth grade has 21 students and 14 students are in our sixth grade class. There are 94 students from Ashfield and 25 enrolled from Plainfield. We have 8 students who were classified as "school of choice" students due to the fact that they were accepted from towns other than Ashfield or Plainfield. All classes are grouped heterogeneously.

The faculty for the 2010 – 2011 school year consists of 8 full-time classroom teachers, one special education teacher and one full-time reading teacher. This represents a decrease of one classroom teacher from the previous year due to a decline in enrollment in the fourth grade. Specialists providing services in our school include a psychologist three days per week, a full-time speech/language teacher, and occupational and physical therapists, each for one half day per week. There are six paraprofessionals who provide additional support in the classrooms and resource room. We have a part-time library manager and part-time Title I Math Teacher. In June of 2010 we said good-bye to veteran first grade teacher Don Spearance who retired after many years of inspiring and educating children at Sanderson Academy, the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School and Greenfield schools.

The Spring of 2010 saw Sanderson Academy students again performing exceptionally well on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Achievement System tests. We also enjoyed participating in the 40<sup>th</sup> year of our international exchange program with Escuela Lomas Altas in Mexico City. The Fall of 2010 saw staff and students beginning to implement new core mathematics materials at all grade levels. We also began to use a new framework for instructional interventions based on research based assessment data, flexible intervention groupings and regular progress monitoring. Early reviews of this program have been very positive.

During 2010 Sanderson Academy was enriched by a number of positive connections with the broader adult community. Mountain Day (a school-wide foliage hike) is a long-standing Sanderson Academy tradition. Following substantial trail work by the Ashfield Trails Committee, Sanderson Academy students used these trails for the Mountain Day hikes, a great time was had by all. Sanderson Academy opened its doors to voters from Ashfield during the first half of 2010 for both voting and the last Annual Town Meeting, these events provided great material for civics lessons. For the second year in a row, our PTO's Local Goods Catalog fundraiser was a huge success, benefiting from the strong connection between the school and our communities. Thank you citizens of Ashfield and Plainfield for all you do to your support your community school!

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Budge A. Litchfield M.Ed., Principal**

## LIBRARY/MEDIA SERVICES

In 2010, 36,771 books and other materials were checked out from the libraries of the Mohawk Trail Regional School System. This is a 10% increase from 2005. This increase in library circulation happened as enrollment in our school system dropped by more than 10%.

In December, 2010 a \$3,000 anonymous donation was made to Hawlemont Regional School, making it possible for Hawlemont to acquire the Destiny Online Catalog. Destiny is a very user-friendly and engaging library online catalog. Once Hawlemont's Destiny is up and running, all seven school libraries in the Mohawk School System will be using this powerful technology.

Four of our Library Managers have received special recognition from the Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) for their excellent work. In 2010 Toni Wilcox, Library Manager at BSE, received the Paraprofessional Recognition Award from the MLA. In the last five years the Library Managers have received on average about 20 hours of training per year. That training has paid great dividends in the wonderful work our Library Managers do. Examples from each school follow.

**Buckland Shelburne Elementary** – In the fall almost 200 books received from the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System collection were cataloged and added to the BSE collection. These added books filled many holes in BSE's curriculum/content areas. A very successful Scholastic Book Fair was held in October resulting in \$1400 worth of new books from Scholastic Publishing. Pre-K through 3rd grade classes received a story time period once a week. Students in grades 3-6 received instruction in library skills and selected books once a week. In August the Children's Literature Festival provided a great reading experience for all the students who attended.

**Colrain Central Elementary** – Students explored and made a list of REASONS TO READ! They came up with 27 reasons including: To learn about other places and people, to know where to go (such as road signs), to be entertained and to learn how to make something (directions or a recipe.) Two very successful book fairs were held in March and November. Read Across America was celebrated with guest readers and skits of some of our favorite Dr. Seuss stories. The library at Colrain Central continues to be a great meeting place for our staff, senior citizens, and other groups from town.

**Hawlemont Elementary** – Students from preschool to 6<sup>th</sup> grade took walking field trips in the fall and the spring to the Tyler Memorial Library. These trips help foster a community of readers and they teach students how to use the town library. The Hawlemont Library was fortunate to receive a Mary Lyon Mini Grant which funded a Preschool Reading P.J. Party. The party was hosted by the Library and the preschoolers, with parents and 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading buddies also attending. Upper grade library classes participated in an online class through the Smithsonian called Prehistoric Climate Change. Students and the librarian were able to be part of a global classroom, asking questions to experts in the field of climate change.

**Heath Elementary** – Students learned the Dewey Decimal System through a series of training games taken from a book entitled *Funbrarian*. The games involve matching book titles with Dewey numbers. The sixth graders have become proficient in the Dewey Decimal System.

**Mohawk Trail Regional School 7-12** – The 20 students in the Fantasy Book Club continued to read books in the *Blue Bloods* series by Melissa de la Cruz and *Marked: A House of Night Novel* by P.C. and Kristin Cast. During Reading Celebration Day on April 12<sup>th</sup> students created posters and teachers gave short book talks about books they enjoyed. From April 12<sup>th</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup>, there was a very successful Scholastic Book Fair. The \$537 profit from the book fair was donated to the Gertrude Streeter Fund. This fund was set up by the relatives of former Colrain teacher, Gertrude Streeter, to provide funds for library books for middle school students. In September a \$10,000 grant was received from the Verizon Foundation. New laptop computers, library books and tech training for staff were obtained. Also, this grant made possible a visit from prominent local author Jane Yolen.

**Rowe Elementary** – This fall a project was done on a book called *The Colors of India*. Students worked in groups on projects related to India. In the spring students did a "Moons Calendar" where they named each of the months based on what was happening seasonally and/or in the school calendar. This was based on a Native American book called *Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back*. The students made one large calendar and smaller versions for each child to take home. They wrote haikus and prose about each month. In the fall the Primary class did a transportation unit, reading books during library time and singing songs about transportation.

**Sanderson Academy Elementary** – The Scholastic Book Fair in November resulted in \$751 in new books for the library. Students have been learning the Dewey Decimal System through a series of training games taken from a book entitled *Funbrarian*. The games involve matching book titles with Dewey numbers. The sixth graders have become so proficient in the Dewey Decimal System that they have taken over book shelving responsibilities.

## Materials Circulated

Buckland Shelburne Elementary  
8,843  
Colrain Central Elementary  
5,339  
Hawlemont Elementary  
9,298  
Heath Elementary  
3,111  
Mohawk Trail Reg. 7-12  
3,565  
Rowe Elementary  
2,131  
Sanderson Academy  
4,484

## Library Manager

Toni Wilcox  
Genie Shearer  
Mary Boehmer  
Marilyn Klockars  
Gina Wells  
Sue Kranz  
Marilyn Klockars

Respectfully Submitted,

**Terry McConnell, Director of Libraries**

## MARY LYON FOUNDATION *20 Years of Service to Local Education*

For twenty years the Mary Lyon Foundation has been providing innovative support for local education to schools and communities in West County. We are grateful for the incredible generosity which makes it possible for us to not only sustain a myriad of programs and services, but expand and strengthen them. We especially appreciate the continuing financial support from the Cleveland Dodge Foundation, the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, local cultural councils, the Xeric Foundation and the generous payroll deductions for the Student Assistance Fund from the staff in all our schools. Philanthropy is alive and well in West County as evidenced by such unsolicited, generous donations as \$3,000 for the Hawlemont School Library to purchase the online Destiny cataloging and circulation program and \$1,000 for the Heath Elementary School to be used for the Drama Club's all school production of *Fiddler on the Roof*.

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual community spelling bee in November raised over \$7,000 for the Mini-Grant program which provides competitive grants for school district staff for educational, replicable projects. The Grand Champion team this year was the Buckland Historical Society Mystorians comprised of Curtis Rich, David Henry and Michael Hoberman; they were sponsored by Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters and Boswell's Books. The Queen Bee sponsor of the event was the Franklin First Credit Union. Winner of the Best Dressed Team award was the Lyon's Lassies senior center team comprised of Jamie Godfrey, Peg Folgmann and Pat Weeks, sponsored by Attorney Kate

Downes. It is a tribute to community spirit that teams from private and public educational, religious, political and civic organizations come together for this amazing fundraiser.

The annual spring Lyonnaise held at the Shelburne-Buckland Community Center featured a farewell tribute to beloved art teacher Polly Anderson for her 35 years of service to the school district. An extensive exhibit of work created by her former students was on display. Dr. Sarah Kemble received the first annual Pat Kerrins Award; Judge William Mazanec was the Outstanding Mohawk Graduate; Karen Blom and Bruce Lessels received the Jim Boulger Spirit of Adventure Award sponsored by The Textile Company and Elmer's Store was the business award recipient.

In addition to distributing backpacks filled with school supplies to local elementary school children again this year, the Mary Lyon Foundation sent school supplies to needy children in Baja. A generous donation of hundreds of books from a publishing company in Scotia, New York is providing books for students and adults in the 9 town community. These are in the process of being distributed through libraries and classrooms.

The Mary Lyon Foundation has played an integral role in establishing and maintaining the Sister Village relationship between Mutianyu, China and Shelburne Falls. This past year we provided technical support for an official delegation from Shelburne and Buckland to visit Mutianyu. The Sister Village concept, inspired by former Shelburne Falls resident Julie Upton Wang, lends an international flavor to the educational aspects of our work. Leading the delegation was Senator Stanley Rosenberg; other representatives were John and Margaret Payne, Dena Willmore, Ginny Ray, Lynn Dole, Ann Hamilton, Paul Cheng and Sue Samoriski. The next official delegation from Mutianyu will visit Shelburne Falls in 2011.

The Mary Lyon Foundation sponsors a student spelling bee, 7 scholarships, an annual Gift Catalog which is a wish list of requested school supplies, the Gertrude Streeter Fund for middle school library books, an agriculture project, Colrain Vision of Excellence for the Colrain Central School, Field Memorial for Sanderson Academy and Heath Horizons Fund for the Heath Elementary School. During the summer our annual tennis lessons, Children's Literature Festival and Discovery Days, respectively coordinated by Judy McWilliams, Toni Wilcox and a college intern, provided educational fun for local children grades K-6. Through the Harper Gerry Student Assistance Fund we purchased warm clothing, eyeglasses, food and other basic necessities for many families. One of our major endeavors this year was the 20<sup>th</sup> annual 2 day special education conference held at Deerfield Academy in March for over 500 western Massachusetts educators. Noted speakers included National Teacher of the Year Anthony Mullen, Macia Mitnacht, State Director of Special Education, and Rick Lavoie, highly acclaimed author and consultant.

The Board of Directors includes Marion Taylor, Past President; George Dole, President; Hugh Knox, Vice President; Sharon Hudson, Corresponding Secretary; Suzanne Conway Lagreze, Recording Secretary; Tom Harmon, Treasurer; Karen Fairbrother, Treasurer Elect; Susan Todd, Jim Pilgrim, Stefan Kostka, Karen Harmon, Amy Love, Heather Viens, Winston Healy and Dan Field. Student representatives are Rachel Glod, Alina Schmidt and alternate Thomas Aurigemma. Gina Sieber is the Business Manager, and Dr. Bruce Willard is an Honorary Lifetime Member.

We are very grateful to the school district for classroom space at the Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School where our office is located. Thank you also to the many generous donors and volunteers who continue to make a positive difference in local education.

Respectfully submitted,

**Susan Samoriski, Ed.D.  
Founding Executive Director**





## HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

The HRMC is a unique, regional municipally funded organization which was created in 1989 by concerned residents in the towns of Ashfield, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. Since 1989 the HRMC has assisted its member Towns with the following efforts:

- Local and regional Recycling and Solid Waste Management Programs
- Promote Waste Reduction and Green House Gas Reduction Programs
- Promote recycling, waste reduction and sustainability outreach programs
- Support Development of Potential Wind and Solar Power Projects in the HRMC region
- Assist towns with reducing their municipal Carbon Footprints

Last Year the HRMC Helped all its Member Towns recycle 2070 tons of materials, saving 6514 tons of green house gas emissions, creating \$165,938 in indirect disposal costs savings and earning the Towns over \$42,800 in recycling revenue.

Currently the HRMC directly assists your Town in the following ways;

- 1 Assists local officials with the cost efficient management of the Towns waste management, recycling and sustainability programs.
- 2 Operate the regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Paint Recycling, Electronics Recycling programs and Mercury Collection Programs to help keep toxic materials out of our local environment.
- 3 Obtain grants to assist the HRMC and your Town with recycling and sustainability.
- 4 Work on "rural" sustainability issues (such as wind and solar power) including the Massachusetts "Green Communities Program" on behalf of member Towns.

We look forward to continuing to help you and your Town protect the environment, become more sustainable and save money. Please call us at (413) 268 - 3845 or email us any time at [hrcmc@crocker.com](mailto:hrcmc@crocker.com) with your questions.

Respectfully submitted,

**Eric Weiss**

Administrator, HRMC

## HILLTOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation (Hilltown CDC) was created in 1981 with a mission to "improve the quality of life for hilltown residents by addressing economic, housing, educational, social and community needs while preserving the rural character of the area." Its core service area includes the ten towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. In recent years its small business assistance program has expanded to serve 20 Hilltowns. Hilltown CDC's four major program areas are affordable housing, small business assistance, social services and community facilities development. Hilltown CDC also writes applications for and manages Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds on behalf of Hilltown communities. In Fiscal Year 2010, Hilltown CDC helped the eight towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Westhampton, Worthington and Williamsburg secure \$2.035 million in CDBG funds to support the programs highlighted below.

**Social Services:** Hilltown CDC's Hilltown Elder Network (HEN)

Program delivered 7,000 hours of in-home caregiving assistance (primarily chore and transportation assistance) to over 120 low-income Hilltown elders at no cost to the participants. HEN staff provided 20,000 miles of transportation for medical visits and other purposes, and \$10,000 in snow removal help. Hilltown CDC also secured CDBG funding for three locally-based social service programs:

- **The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE)**, administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to nearly 250 eligible homebound elders.
  - **The Hilltown Food Pantry** distributed 63,000 pounds of food to 287 eligible hilltown individuals. The Pantry is administered by the Northampton Survival Center at the Goshen Town Hall. Call 586-6564 or 268-7578 for information.
  - **Families Together, 0**
- Economic Development:** Hilltown CDC, from July 2009 to June 2010:
- Provided individualized consulting and/or training workshops to 176 small businesses.
  - Published the 2010 Hilltown Business Directory, distributed to 13,500 hilltown households in 20 towns, listing 290 hilltown businesses, 80 regional resource agencies, and contact information for officials of 20 towns. The Directory is also on-line at [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org).
  - Organized the 4th annual Hilltown Spring Festival at the Cummington Fairgrounds, gathering 2,000 hilltowners to enjoy 17 local music and dance groups, food from 7 local vendors, and displays by 55 local businesses and 15 non-profit organizations.

**Affordable Housing:** We actively pursue opportunities to preserve and create affordable housing to meet the needs of low and moderate income Hilltown residents.

**Westhampton Woods Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC conducted a feasibility study to expand this senior rental housing complex we built in 2005 from seven to fifteen units.

**Chesterfield Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC worked with the Chesterfield Senior Housing Committee to identify a site and obtain funds for a small senior housing project.

**Rental Housing:** Hilltown CDC improved management of its 30 units of scarce affordable rental housing in Williamsburg, Huntington, Westhampton and Chesterfield.

**New Project Development:** Hilltown CDC investigated a number of other potential sites in an ongoing effort to develop additional rental housing for seniors and families in the region.

**First-time Homebuyer Program:** Hilltown CDC provided individual homebuyer counseling and workshops to 118 households to help them prepare for the purchase of homes. In addition, CDBG funding enabled 5 income-eligible households to secure grants and deferred payment loans to help them buy homes in the Hilltowns.

**Housing Rehabilitation Program:** provides zero percent interest, deferred-payment loans to income eligible homeowners for use in making a wide variety of repairs to their homes, including roofs, septic systems, electrical, plumbing, and heating. In addition, the program provides a source of steady year round employment for area contractors. In FY 2010 HCDC: Rehabilitated 11 houses in the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Westhampton and Williamsburg and Worthington using deferred payment loans for home repairs and lead paint removal totaling \$213,134.

### Community Facilities:

Hilltown CDC works with municipalities and a wide range of community groups in the public and private sector. The Community Facilities Program provides project management services for development and the construction of buildings or infrastructure projects, large or small. We provide guidance to building committees and town officials. We also assist by researching and completing applications for project funding.

Below is a list of FY 2010 Accomplishments in the Community Facilities Program:

Procured architectural services to develop construction documents for an elevator project at Nash Hill Place. Worked with an Advisory Committee appointed by the town of Williamsburg to oversee the work. An application was submitted to the CDBG Program for FY10 funding to construct the project. Entered into a fee for service contract with the town of Chesterfield to provide project management services for the construction of a new Highway Garage. Procured architectural services and coordinated funding applications with USDA Rural Development and with The Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Fund Programs. Assisted the town of Plainfield with the procurement and delivery of a new police cruiser valued at \$35,041.

### Community Planning:

We also work closely with municipalities and community groups in our service area to plan for, raise funds for and/or manage a range of projects. During FY10 HCDC:

Provided planning assistance to the Northern Hilltowns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington for preparing and updating their Community Development Strategies. A number of new community needs were identified, along with projects to be included in future CDBG funding applications.

Secured a second \$15,000 grant from the Mass. Service Alliance to engage three part-time Commonwealth Corps volunteers who provide planning and logistical support to expand the Elder Small Home Repair program and to create a new youth pilot project.

In FY 2010, Hilltown CDC generated over \$1.6 million in revenue to support the above projects and its members elected five new Board representatives: Bill Adams (Plainfield), Michele Morris (Williamsburg), Andy Myers (Chester), Laura Porter (Haydenville), Cathy Roth (Middlefield). We also bid farewell to two members retiring from Board service: Bob Heath, (Huntington) and Marjorie Snyder (Williamsburg). Thanks to you all for your dedicated service to the Hilltowns!

Respectfully submitted by:  
**Catherine Roegge**  
Executive Director

## HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Hampshire Council of Governments is a membership based organization that solves common challenges through regional solutions while retaining local control over local affairs. The combined dues for the Council of Governments in Fiscal Year 2010 were \$37,206. Dues for all member towns have been reduced to ease the financial burden to the municipalities while increasing the stability of the Council membership. The dues collected help support Council programs, services, and assistance to a variety of programs. It is the continued goal of the Council to increase revenues from a variety of sources to offset the reduced assessment and to expand services.

The Council achieved several key goals in 2010.

- A strategic planning process was completed, with input from all

towns in our service area. The Council will continue to refine this planning process and will work with our membership to create specific services and programs to meet the most pressing needs of the Towns.

- Hampshire Power continues its impressive expansion. It now serves the electricity needs of towns, schools, and businesses in the five Western Counties of Massachusetts - Hampshire, Franklin, Hampden, Worcester, and Berkshire.
- Hampshire Power is aggressively pursuing Municipal Aggregation, which will eventually strive to serve residential customers, expanding the benefit of our electricity cost saving model.
- Hampshire Care and the Hampshire Park property were sold to the Masonic Health System of Massachusetts.
- The Council Cooperative Purchasing Program saved the participants in this program approximately \$718,110.
- The Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust held down costs once again, keeping single digit health care increases in a climate of double digit increases. The Trust remains the pinnacle of health insurance in the Commonwealth.
- The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) provided 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$2.58 million.
- The Councilors established a scholarship fund to help support high school students who have demonstrated civic and community involvement.

### Hampshire Power

Hampshire Power continued to expand with the number of customers increasing to almost 100. The energy load increased from 4 to 6 MWs during FY2010. More towns and districts in Worcester and Berkshire Counties joined the Program and the renewal rate of contracts was 100%. A new rate plan was added during the year which resulted in three choices for customers - the new Fixed, the Real Time, and the Profit Share. During FY2010, Real Time Rate customers saved a total of \$410,000 compared to the utilities' rates. The Municipal Aggregation Initiative was launched with the hiring of a staff person to research regulations, meet with towns' Boards of Selectmen, develop the necessary plan for the Department of Public Utilities, and commence aggregation for a number of towns. The Green Committee, a sub-committee of the Electricity Committee, was revived and green options for customers, sustainability, and renewable energy programs continue to be researched. To decrease the risk involved in purchasing electricity, staff had reviewed proposals and met with consultants in order to contract for purchasing services in the new fiscal year.

### Cooperative Purchasing

The Cooperative Purchasing program, now in its 30th year, coordinates and administers a formal bidding process on behalf of Council departments, municipalities, school districts, human service agencies, and miscellaneous governmental entities throughout the Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire County region. Buying in bulk generates added savings over lone bidding efforts while complying with state procurement statutes and eliminating duplication of administrative work. The total purchasing volume for goods and services for Fiscal Year 2010 was \$4.6 million with a projected savings of \$718,110.

### Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust

In a year when many towns are facing double-digit rate increases in health insurance premiums, our towns once again held their costs to single-digit increases. The Hampshire Councilors serve as the trustees of the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust, a cooperative effort to provide health and life insurance with excellent benefits at competitive rates. An Insurance Advisory Committee, made up of representatives of all participating units, meets regularly to dis-



cuss problems and possible solutions and to explore new ideas. The Trust manages a self-funded group of health insurance products. In the Insurance Year 2010 (April 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010), the collective premium for the Trust was \$45M. Through the efforts and expertise of the Trust management, the volume of participation in the program, and the participation of the town representatives on the Advisory Board, the Insurance Trust is successful at managing costs while providing excellent benefits.

### **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program**

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) of Hampshire & Franklin Counties is the Council's community service program that mobilizes adults age 55+ to meet community needs by recruiting, placing, and supporting volunteers in a diverse array of service opportunities at local non-profit and public agencies. RSVP matches people with experience and skills to offer with organizations that need their help. The program benefits the senior population by keeping them active and engaged, and benefits our region by bringing these volunteers' dedication, wisdom, and expertise to bear on our communities' most pressing needs.

During FY10, RSVP brought on 141 new volunteers bringing our total volunteer force to 653. These volunteers gave more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$2.58 million. RSVP Volunteers serve at hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, after school programs, survival centers, and senior centers in towns across the two counties.

The following are some examples of the impact RSVP volunteers are having on our communities:

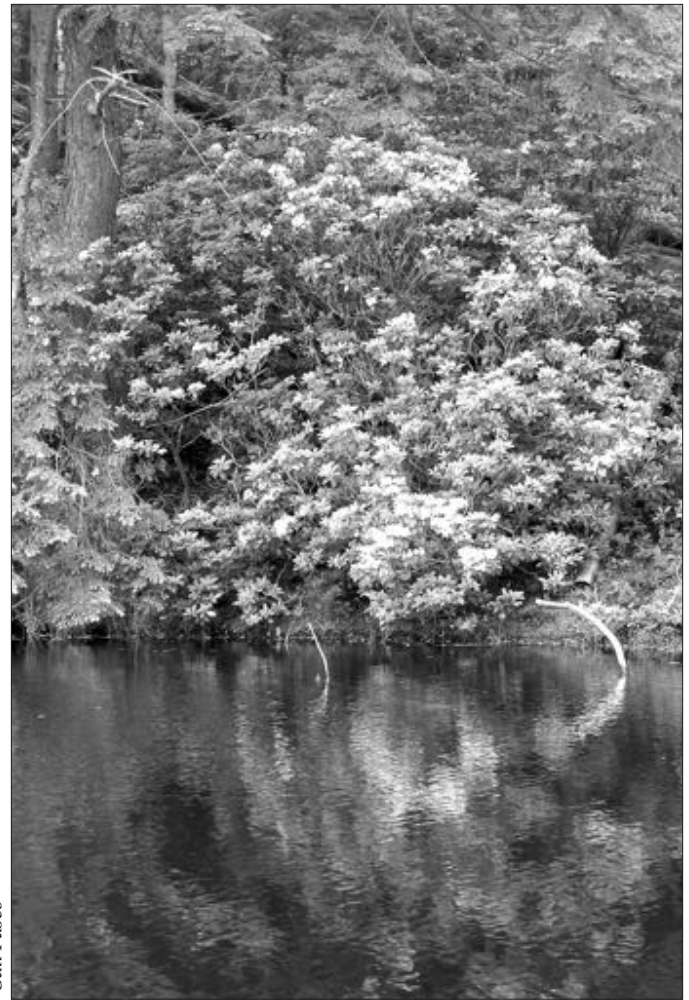
- During the reporting period 20 volunteers worked with 203 students in schools and after school programs to improve academic skills. 74% of students increased their interest in reading and 776% improved their academic skills.
- Through RSVP's Osteoporosis Exercise Program, 32 volunteers led strength training classes for 242 seniors. 85% of class participants improved their physical health and 97% improved their ability to avoid falls or broken bones.
- 128 volunteers increased food security in our region by providing food to more than 800 elders.
- 255 volunteers improved the quality of life for more than 10,000 seniors by leading activities and providing information at senior centers.

### **Regional Services**

The Regional Services Department develops regional approaches to problems shared by Hampshire County municipalities. The department secured surplus federal equipment for various Massachusetts municipalities and state entities. The current net savings of property delivered to member communities for Fiscal Year 2010, after fees and delivery charges, totaled \$4,400.00. Net program income from fees was \$6,350.00. Member communities receive a 50% discount off the Council portion of the fee, as well as the right of first refusal on higher quality pieces of equipment obtained through the surplus program. The department arranges workshops and seminars on topics of interest to local officials.

### **Hampshire Inspection Program**

Now in its sixteenth year, the Hampshire Inspection Program is a fee for service building inspection and zoning enforcement program serving Chesterfield, Goshen, Huntington, and Middlefield. Annual assessments are based on building permit and zoning activity. Two hundred and ninety-eight building permits were issued in FY2010, of which twenty-five permits were for new homes. Annual assessments to member towns are based on hours spent on building permit and zoning activity. All administrative, clerical, and travel expenses are shared equally by member towns. The program offers a fully certified inspector who regularly attends training and educational seminars.



Gail Fusco

*Mountain Laurel*

### **Wellness Initiative Program**

The Wellness Initiative is a worksite wellness program working with 70 municipal units to identify the needs and interests of subscribers and to provide information, education and programs promoting healthier choices. The Wellness Initiative launched several new programs including: Being a wise health care consumer; Mediterranean Diet Nutrition class and sampling; and Walking challenges in several communities. The Initiative also piloted 4 wellness teams to assess the health risks, needs and interests of employees in their work place and identify programs and strategies to meet these health needs.

### **The Tobacco Free Community Partnership**

The Tobacco Free Community Partnership conducts compliance checks to monitor the illegal sale of tobacco products to minors, and provides education on the health and economic effects of tobacco. In addition the program sponsors a western mass smoke free apartment website for both landlords interested in making their buildings smoke free and tenants interested in finding smoke free apartments. Landlords can list their smoke free apartments for free. The website can be found at [www.smokefree.hampshirecog.org](http://www.smokefree.hampshirecog.org),

For further information on Council programs, expenses, and revenues, please contact the Councilors' Office at 413-584-1300 ext. 2. You may also visit the Council website at [www.hampshirecog.org](http://www.hampshirecog.org).



Adam Kanzer

West Hill Cemetery

## WHITING STREET FUND

Though the past year was a very difficult economically for both Plainfield and our country, the Whiting Street Fund was not contacted for assistance from any town resident. This fund, put in place by Mr. Whiting Street of Northampton, over a 100 years ago is still available for use by any town resident in need of financial assistance. The Fund is overseen by a three person committee who meet as needed to review requests. All requests for assistance are kept in strict confidence throughout the process. If you are having financial difficulties or know of someone in town who is in need, please contact any committee member and they will be glad to explain the process to have your situation evaluated for possible assistance.

Respectfully submitted

**David Alvord, Chairman**

**Ellen Baer**

**Robert Persing**

## VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER

There were no veteran burials in Plainfield in 2010.

A total of 205 flags were placed on veterans' graves in the Hilltop Cemetery, in the West Hill Cemetery, and for the Veterans' Memorial in front of the Plainfield Congregational Church. As required by State Law, the flags are set before Memorial Day, and are removed after Veterans' Day to prevent them from becoming frayed and faded during the winter.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dudley D. Williams**

## CEMETERY COMMITTEE

We have been working on updating available burial plots for family plots. We believe that we have finally gotten all of the remaining plots in the old section of Hilltown Cemetery done. We put temporary markers at each available plot. Each marker gives the family given name and number of the available plot. Past Cemetery records are very sparse and very confusing. So to help create and maintain cemetery records for both the past and the future, we have purchased a Cemetery Record Management System from NewComm Technologies. The system will map out all new burial plots, as well as map out existing burials. We will be able to input all existing plots into the data base, so that there will be a permanent record showing information on each burial. At some point, a picture of the grave stone will be added to the records. We have submitted a copy of the "Map of Hilltop Cemetery" by Arvilla Dyer and her sister, Priscilla Allen. We also have sent a copy of the record book that was keep by plots by the previous Burial Agents and Town Clerks. We are currently working on just the new section of the cemetery. This is so we can assign new plots correctly and know where the next available plot is without having to get out a tape ruler each time we need to mark a plot out for a burial. We are a long way from finished with this project but when it is done there will no longer be any questions of how many plots are remaining for a family that purchased a group of plots and just where their plots are. While working on this project, we discovered that the stone wall was never completed on the back left side of the new section. We will have to address that soon.

This year we had Six (6) burials in the Hilltop Cemetery. They were all former residents or a family using one of their family plots for someone in their family.

Submitted by:

Theresa Thatcher, Burial Agent

Merton Taylor

Betsy Howes



## HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission continued its ongoing work on its historic housing inventory during 2010. Work on this project is being led by Judy Williams and Thelma Pilgrim.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Dario Coletta, Chair**

## BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

The Buildings Committee continues to provide maintenance, repairs and/or renovations to the Town's public access facilities.

### TOWN HALL COMMUNITY CENTER:

- Reparation of the mechanism and foundation (structural support) for the elevator in the Town hall has been completed.
- The Revolutionary War plaque has been repaired, refurbished and remounted in the Town Hall.
- The bulletin board outside the Town Hall has been repaired
- The telephone problem inside the Town Hall has been resolved and a new outside telephone transfer box has been installed. Also a new alarm system has been installed.
- Stairways in both the Town Hall and the Hallock Building have been brought up to code with new hand railings.
- Steve Bushway has temporarily serviced both chimneys in the Town Hall and the Hallock Building. A rain-cap is sorely needed for the top of the Town Hall's chimney in lieu of rebuilding the chimney itself. Furnace No. 2 in the basement of the Hallock Building was cleaned along with new filters. The duct work from the chimney to the furnaces was in severe need of cleaning as sulfuric acid residue was found collecting around their base. All ducting was cleaned.
- Still standing as a deferred issue is the renovation of the "Town Hall" auditorium, inside and out. Due to the expense, perhaps a long-term endeavor initiated and implemented through several phases might be necessary. Additional funds will also necessitate the overall project. Any ideas????

### LIBRARY AND TOWN OFFICES:

- Furnace No.3 (providing heat to the Library) has been found to be hazardous for continuous use. It has been "red-tagged" (January 21) not to be used. A new furnace has been ordered and expected to be installed the middle of next week (January 25?)
- Due to other priorities and extenuating circumstances, the shelving project in the basement of the Town Offices has been curtailed to the Spring.
- When the winter months are over, the stone marquee in front of the Library will be raised upon another pedestal to become more visible and out of the way for plowing.
- The damaged Hot Water Heater in the basement was replaced with an "instant-on" heater located beneath the sink adjacent to the Library and the Town Offices. Also a water analysis was taken to determine the condition of water in regard to existing plumbing.
- Minor rest room repairs were made.

### HATHAWAY HALL:

- New storm windows replaced the older broken ones in the attic of Hathaway Hall.
- A new light detector has been installed in the front of Hathaway Hall.
- Proposals have been sent to Town officials and Committee members in response to requests for space allocation. The Buildings committee is still waiting reply to those proposals. (i.e. better utilization of Hathaway Hall for expanded space for Board of Health meetings and storage (Fire Chief's prior office); scheduled meetings place to help with cost of heating fuel in winter; Possible Police Interrogation room. etc. etc.
- The Committee is still attempting to coordinate communication

with the U. S. Postal Department to determine the feasibility of Hathaway Hall's use as a possible "Regional" P.O. but until then the facility might better be utilized in conjunction and cooperation with the present occupants (AA and Cub Scouts).

### FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING:

- The Buildings Committee has donated three thousand dollars to the Fire Department for the purchase of a new security lock system for the Public Safety facility. The Fire Dept. also repaired the damaged roof from the winter storm.
- Ruby Goodnoff mentioned that more shelving is necessary in the Public Safety Kitchen. Provision will be made through the Buildings Committee.

### TOWN COMPACTOR:

- A metal roof has been installed over Ray's shelter at the Town Compactor, and a coordinated effort is being considered to resolve the present scenario regarding the problem of water contamination behind the present location of the compactor.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Jim Feeley, Chair**  
**Andy Sargenski, Secretary**  
**Pleun Bouricius, consulting member**  
**Claude Dupont, member**  
**Dennis Mimitz, member**

## BUILDING INSPECTOR

Building Permit activity for 2010 includes the following: One new house, three garages, two barns, three mud rooms, three additions, two interior repairs, three barn repairs, seven new roofs, five new window up grades, four woodstoves, two pellet stoves, one porch, and two decks.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Andy Stevens**



Adam Kanzer

West Hill Cemetery

## BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The year began with 433 registered voters consisting of  
115 Democrats,  
36 Republicans  
3 Greens  
3 Green Rainbows  
276 unenrolled.

The year ended with 458 registered voters consisting of  
119 Democrats  
37 Republicans  
3 Greens  
3 Green Rainbows  
296 unenrolled  
Respectfully submitted

**John Westwood, chair**  
**Linda Melle**  
**Thelma Pilgrim**  
**Theresa Thatcher**

## COUNCIL ON AGING

A “new” COA picked up the reins of the Plainfield COA at the beginning of 2010. Ruby Goodnoff and Jay McMahon were appointed by the Selectboard and agreed to work together as co-chairs, with Phil Alessio as the third Council member. Ann Kohn, RN functions virtually as a member of the Board as well, arriving early for set-up and filling in as needed. Davio Danielson took over COA’s administrative duties from Gail Fusco at the end of 2009 and has served as the Plainfield COA Staff member.

The first meeting of 2010 featured a Magic Performance by Jay McMahon with incredible! impossible! magic tricks with absolutely spectacular sleight-of-hand, close up, and in broad daylight. The entertainment that followed was less spectacular, with some Wii games, card games, Bingo, the occasional speaker, and occasionally music. To remember Veteran’s Day, all the veterans shared their experiences during their tours of service, a vivid reminder of how much the people of Plainfield have given to their country.

During 2010, the Plainfield Council on Aging organized clinics for Seasonal Flu shots and blood pressure check-ups in cooperation with the Hilltown Health Centers, held regular delicious luncheons twice a month on most Wednesdays, with a few cancellations during inclement weather, and cooperated with the Hilltown COA Consortium in a wide-range of activities of interest and benefit to local elders, including a new directory of health and social service agencies.

Gail Fusco, Phil Alessio and Thelma Pilgrim continued the monthly pickup and distribution of food to folks in Plainfield from the Western Massachusetts Food Bank. Known as the “Brown Bag” program, it provides nutritious food to supplement shrinking food budgets for many Plainfield households.

Anyone age 55 and over is welcome to participate and suggest ideas for COA activities. All activities will be posted on the Town Bulletin board and announced periodically in the Plainfield Post. Anyone who needs to arrange transportation to a COA event may call Davio at 634-0321. The COA meetings and provide a place for elders to connect with one another and with sources of support. People active with the COA often help each other out, exercise together, and share transportation to luncheons and other events.

For information call 413-634-0321

Respectively submitted,

**Davio Danielson, Director**

## VETERENS SOURCE CENTER

### Enrollment and Eligibility:

If you are a Veteran not currently enrolled in the VA healthcare, you are invited to contact their main eligibility office and 413-582-3091. Further information can be found at [www.va.gov/healtheligibility](http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility) Greenfield Based outpatient Clinic, 143 Munson St. 413-773-8428 Many Veterans have been call looking for the VA Web Sites here are a few for you.

Educational Benefits.

[www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

Home Loan Guaranty.

[www.homeloans.va.gov](http://www.homeloans.va.gov)

Federal Jobs

[www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)

Returning Veterans

[www.seamlesstransition.va.gov](http://www.seamlesstransition.va.gov)

VA Home Page.

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Government Jobs.

[www.usajobs.gov/opm](http://www.usajobs.gov/opm)

### Home of the Brave

Mass Housing’s Home for the Brave loan program provides affordable, no-down payment mortgages for veterans of the U.S. Armed Services living in Massachusetts. To apply for a Home of the Brave loan, contact a participating lender. For a complete list of Home for the Brave lenders, visit: [www.masshousing.com/veteran](http://www.masshousing.com/veteran).

You can call Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency at 888-672-7562.

Sincerely,

**Leo J. Parent, Jr, Director**



Adam Kanzer

Summit Street